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Golan Druze stone Israeli police

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Hundreds of Druze Arabs threw stones at Israeli police and border police in the occupied Golan Heights town of Majdal Shams Saturday. Israel Radio said, Army radio said the stone-throwing began after police and border police fired tear-gas in an effort to disperse hundreds of Druze, who had gathered to demonstrate in solidarity with Syria on that country's Independence Day. An Israel Radio reporter in Majdal Shams said it was as if it were "rain arrested, the radio said. Israel Radio said several hundred Syrian Druze gathered on hills across the border with Syria, singing and shouting through loudhailers. Israel occupied the Golan Heights from Syria in the 1967 war. In 1981 Israel passed a law extending Israeli law to the area, in effect "annexing" it. In contrast to the tough handling of stone-throwers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, police in the Golan were ordered to refrain from firing even rubber bullets at the protesters, and used only teargas, Israel Radio reported. The Golan is home to 18,000 Druze Arabs, most with Syrian citizenship, and about 11,000 Israeli settlers living in 32 from and citizenship. living in 32 farms and villages.



Russian hardliners hope to help Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — Opposition hardliners from Russia's parhament wrapped up a seven-day visit to Baghdad Saturday with a pledge to assist trad in its battle against U.N. trade sanctions. "We shall strive to remove that on the property of the p the embargo against Iraq," Elya Konstantinov, leader of the National Saivation Front delegation, told reporters. "We shall strive, when back home to change the stand of Russia towards Iraq ... and to help Iraq in the United Nations," Mr. Konstantinov said through an Iraqi interpreter. The front is an alliance of former communists, militant nationalists and military and police officers. President Boris Yeltsin's attempt to ban the group was blocked by the Russian courts. The seven front members of parliament got a red-carpet welcome in Iraq. They met Parliament Speaker Saadi Mehdi Saleh and Foreign Minister Mohammad Saced Al Sahaf during their stay and one member, General Anatoli Kaltonov, met Defence Minister Ali Hassan Al Majeed. "General Kaltonov expressed his admiration for the steadfastness and courage of the Iraqi people.. in the face of colonial American hegemony," the Defence Ministry newspaper Al Qadissiyah reported Saturday.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Happy Easter

The Jordan Times will not be published on Monday, April 19, due to the Easter Sunday holiday. The next issue of the newspaper will appear on Tuesday, April 20. The Jordan Times wishes its readers and advertisers a happy Easter.

Chechen president imposes own rule

MOSCOW (AFP) — Chechen President Zhokhar Dudayev Saturday dissolved parliament and the government in the separatist Russian republic and imposed presidential rule, the Interfax news agency reported. Mr. Dudayev also announced a curfew in the capital Grozny, Chechen Deputy Foreign Minister Said Geliskhanov told the agency. The autonomous region declared itself independent of Russia a year and a half ago, a move which Moscow has never recognised.

5 held in Yemeni arson case

ADEN (R) - Yemen has arrested five people accused of setting fire to a video store last week, security sources said Saturday. The sources did not disclose the identity of the suspects who were arrested in Ibian province. 70 kilometres east of Aden, but residents said they were Muslim militants. Owners of similar video stores believe that incident was the first of its kind in the country. Muslim militants active in other parts of the Arab World have attacked video stores which they see as against Islam. The owner of the damaged shop, Ahmad Mohammad Sarwah, told police he received a letter a week ago from an anonymous person warning him to close the store or face dire consequences.

No proof of Pakistan's 'direct involvement' in Bombay blasts

NEW DELHI (AP) - India has in the string of blasts which killed about 300 people in Bombay last month, Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh said Saturday. Indian investigating agencies have "so far not provided any concrete proof of direct involvement of Pakistan." the Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted Mr. Singh as saying in the north-ern city of Lucknow. But there was no doubt that Islamabad was "aiding and abetting terrorism" in the Indian states of Punjab and Kashmir, where Sikh and Muslim militants are fighting for secession, he told a news conference.

trag reinstates claim to Kuwait — paper

BAGHDAD (R) — An Iraqi

newspaper reasserted Iraq's claim Saturday to Kuwait and said the same Baghdad some day would again 19th province. Babel newspaper, published by President Saddam Hussein's son Uday, took the occasion of the anniversary of Iraq recapturing the southern Fao peninsula from Iran on April 17, draw the parallel with Kuwait. "Fao - Kuwait - constant liberation, God willing," Babel trumpeted in a banner headline. Traci troops occupied Kuwait in August 1990 but a U.S.-led multinational force drove them out about seven months later. Iraq's official press refers to Kuwait as a region" and Rabai colling as a "region" and Babel still describes it as Iraq's 19th province.

Arabs defer decision on peace talks until Monday

U.S. said suggesting 5-day delay in bilaterals

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Arab parties to the Middle East peace talks Saturday put off a decision on whether to resume

negotiations with Israel. They decided to meet again here Monday after an Arab League meeting Sunday in Cairo. "We are leaving now for Cairo

to attend the Arab League's ministerial meeting and will return Monday to Damascus for a closing session at which we will take the proper decision regarding the peace process and obstacles facing it," Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharaa told reporters.

The Arab League meeting focusing on the Arab-Israeli conlict as well as the crisis between Libya and the West will group 19 of the pan-Arab body's 21 foreign affairs chiefs.

A Lebanese delegate said ear-lier that if the parties here were unable to adopt a common stand, they would continue their discussions in Cairo.

Mr. Sharaa, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fares Bouez, Jordan's Kamel Abu Jaber as well as the political department chief of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Farouk Kaddoumi, were to have ended their meeting in Damascus Saturday and decide whether to attend the ninth ses-Exiles say delay not enough,

(R) — Palestinian expellees said

Saturday a demand by Palestinian

degotiators to postpone talks with Israel was too little and they must

permanently quit the peace pro-

"The demand of the Palesti-

nian negotiating team is not enough," said Abdul Aziz Al Rantisi, leader of the 396 Palesti-

nian expellees who began a fifth

"The delegation must now

announce a complete withdrawal

from the negotiations... especial-

ly as they (talks) will achieve

nothing for the Palestinian people

and will be in Israel's interest,"

he told Reuters at the exiles' tent

Palestinian negotiators told

Arab foreign ministers meeting in

Damascus that they wanted a

delay in the talks, due to resume

Tuesday, as Israel and the United

States failed to meet even mini-

Dr. Rantisi said the men had

no demands from Arab govern-

ments. "They know very well the

firm stand of the deportees who

demand the full implementation

of U.N. Security Council Resolu-

mum demands.

month in exile on Saturday.

demand pullout from talks

MARI AL ZOHOUR, Lebanon after the men were banished on

sion of bilateral Arab-Israeli talks Christopher Ross, was sighted in scheduled to open Tuesday in Washington.

Their talks, also attended by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa, were suspended briefly Saturday after an inconclusive four-hour session.

Mr. Sharaa did not specify how long the next round of talks here would last. But a delegate here said the Arabs would probably insist that the peace talks be postponed until April 26.

During that time, the United States, which is co-sponsoring the peace process with Russia, will be asked to publish a statement responding to a request for clarifications by the Arabs before the Washington negotiations can resume, the delegate said.

Mr. Sharaa said he spoke by telephone Saturday morning with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher to "review international efforts aimed at eliminating obstacles hampering the peace process. Mr. Sharaa said he had briefed

his Arab colleagues on the con-versation with Mr. Christopher, which he described as "important," adding that it would "help formulate a common Arab

Dec. 17, orders Israel to take

Dr. Rantisi said pressure from

the Palestinian people in Israeli-

occupied territories had forced

the Palestine Liberation Orga-

nisation (PLO) and the delega-

Israeli roadblock after a 34-year-

march" had achieved its goals

The Palestinian negotiators,

under pressure from a public

turning increasingly against peace

efforts, want an early target date

for the exiles' return and an

agreement to allow back a size-

able number of others expelled

They insist on an improved

and warned that similar steps

could be taken in the future.

away from the men.

them back immediately.

peace talks.

The U.S. ambassador to Syria,

the lobby of Damascus' Sheraton Hotel where the Arabs' meeting was being held.

The Palestinians have urged the Arabs to postpone a return to the peace talks until early May to allow Washington to reconsider their demands for Israel to reopen the occupied territories and settle the expellee crisis, a Palestinian source said Saturday.

The West Bank and Gaza Strip were closed at the end of March amid unprecedented violence. Palestinian sources here said

Washington rejected both conditions for resuming the talks, which were derailed by Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians to South Lebanon on December 17. Mr. Musa has urged the

Palestinians to resume the talks, stressing that Israel would make ions once they agree to return to the negotiating table, sources at the meeting said. Syria's official daily Tishrin slammed what it called "Israeli

stubbornness and obstacles that the Jewish state continues to place" before the peace process. It called on the United States

(Continued on page 5) Peace process at historic point,

'Rabin ready to offer some legislative

authority to **Palestinians**

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is willing to tion to seek a delay in the talks. The exiles, defying a barrage of offer Palestinians legislative powers in exchange for some flex ity on their part in the Middle marched on Israseli lines south East peace talks, Israeli army of their camp on Friday in a bid to block the resumption of the radio reported. Officials in Mr. Rabin's office

refused to comment on what The march halted short of an appeared to be a significant poliold expellee was lightly injured cy shift, aimed at luring Palestinians back to the negotiations by debris thrown up by an Israeli tank shell hitting rocks 30 metres table. Israel once objected to giving Dr. Rantisi, 45, said the "death

any lawmaking authorities to the Palestinians, arguing it would mean agreeing to their demand for independent statehood.

The radio said Mr. Rabin had instructed Israel's negotiators headed by Cabinet Secretary Eliakim Rubinstein to make substantive offer at the peace talks vhen talks resume.

The issues on which Mr. Rabin urged flexibility include control over water resources, land and legislative powers, army radio



Israeli soldiers inspect the wreckage of a bombed vehicle which exploded near an Israeli settlement in the occupied West Bank Friday. The Beirut-based Hizbollah-Palestine movement Saturday

killed two Palestinians and wounded eight Israeli

Closure of occupied lands is irreversible —Israeli minister which 13 Israelis were killed. It

(Agencies) — Israel's housing minister said Saturday that the three-week closure of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip was irreversible." or unlikely ever to be lifted.

Minister Benjamin Ben Eliezer said only skilled workers or up to 20,000 Palestinians would gradually be permitted back to work in Israel, particularly at construc-

"I don't think in principle the closure will be removed, it seems to me that those who needed workers from the occupied territories must get used to the fact that this situation is irreversible." Mr. Ben Eliezer said on army

The closure was imposed at the end of March after a wave of knifting and shooting attacks in has barred about 120,000 Palestinian breadwinners employed in Israel from earning a livelihood. The cabinet decided a week ago to extend the measure indefinitely but was expected to re-

"The closure is working." said Mr. Ben Eliezer. "It creates 100 per cent security." he added, referring to the slowdown in vioence this month.

view it on a weekly basis.

"Our government is determined that the separation over time will happen. The government is determined that what was, will not be anymore." Mr. Ben Eliezer said. He reiterated plans to train Israelis to take over

construction and farming jobs. Palestinians and Israeli leftwingers have argued that the closure constitutes collective

two million Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza were encouraged to rely on Israel for their livelihoods for more than two decades. Many were barred from building their own industry. The measure has also been

viewed as a pressure tactic on Palestinian negotiators who are hesitating to join the Middle East peace talks scheduled to resume Washington on Tuesday. Mr. Ben Eliezer said Israel has

promised the Palestinians "they can raise any request that they want" at the negotiating table, if they return. Palestinians have held out for more concessions on demands for

Israel to return 396 men from the West Bank and Gaza expelled to

Egypt fears radioactivity in Sinai

CAIRO (AFP) - Egypt Saturday renewed a call to Israel to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and sought clarifications to reports of increased radioactivity in southern Israel, foreign ministry sources said.

On Wednesday, the Israeli duily Haaretz reported that increased radioactivity in the Nagab Desert had been detected after the Dimona nuclear plant last summer dumped water from

the facility's cooling busins.
"These reports illustrate the well-founded Egyptian position which calls on Israel to sign the NPT and subject its installations and nuclear programmes to control by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)," a ministry official said.

"If this information is true, Egypt will adopt the necessary measures to prevent possible contamination in the Sinai Peninsula," some 50 kilometres from the Dimona plant, he added. The Israeli health ministry had,

confirmed that heavy water had been discharged, as an exception, but insisted there was no contamination. The official daily Al Ahram said Friday that a team of Egyp-

tian experts had the previous night gone to Sinai to gauge the extent of radioactivity in the regions skirting the border with İsrael. Israel, which in January signed

an international convention to prevent the spread of chemical veapons, has to date refused to be a signatory of the NPT. Most Arab countries, including

Egypt, have made their signature of the chemical weapons accord conditional upon Israel's acquiescence to pen the NPT.

(Continued on page 5)

Rocket kills 6 in Kabul

range rockets were fired on the former International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) hospital in south Kabul, killing six and wounding 41, the Red Cross reported Saturday.

The state news agency Bakhtar reported a further 16 rockets fired into northern Kabul Friday. leaving five wounded and one

"One rocket exploded in front of the entrance to the emergency ward, two on the roof of the administrative building and another just 20 metres distant," fumed Doctor Armin Kobel. head of the Kabul Red Cross delegation.

Most of the casualties were relatives of bospital patients, he

said. Dr. Kobel, who said the rockets were fired late Friday, believed the former Red Cross-run hospital had been deliberately targetted.

"There are no military objectives near this hospital, so why was it hit?" he demanded. Dr. Kobel repeated the doctrine of neutrality that all warring

factions must respect concerning hospital facilities. "We ask once again all parties to respect all hospitals in Kabul. They are not military targets,

Kobel said. He said hospitals were internationally respected and must also be given the same consideration

in Kabul. These rocket barrages may have been linked to a late afternoon clash between guerrillas of Prime Minsiter-designate Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami faction, and Ahmad Shah

Defence Ministry forces. Hezb reportedly attacked Jamiat in the vicinity of the Russian embassy in Deh Morad Khan district of south Kabul. "It was a sudden attack and

Masoud's Jamiat-e-Islami faction

they captured two of our posts.' said a Jamiat soldier. "But in the evening we

counter-attacked, retaking these two posts and capturing one post of Hezb," the soldier claimed. 15 killed in crash

Fifteen people, including two Western journalists, were killed when a helicopter crashed in the Hindu Kush mountain range Fri-

The helicopter went down and crashed into a mountain.



BLACK FURY: African National Congress (ANC) supporters gather in Johannesburg Saturday protesting against the assassination

of South African Communist Party leader Chris Hani (see story on page 8)

Two convicted, two acquitted in Los Angeles police beating case LOS ANGELES (Agencies) -

The senior officer present and the policeman who delivered the most baton blows in the beating of Rodney King were found guil-ty Saturday of violating the black motorist's civil rights. Two other officers were found innocent. Sergeant Stacey Koon, in

charge at the time of the March 1991 incident, was accused of intentionally allowing excessive force to be used while Officer Laurence Powell was found guilty of violating Mr. King's civil

Mr. Powell turned pale when the guilty verdict was read but Mr. Koon did not react.

Officer Theodore Briseno and former Probationary Officer Timothy Wind, who has sacked shortly after the attack, were found innocent of violating Mr. King's civil rights and of aiding and abetting the beating. The four white men's virtual

equittal on most charges in a California state trial last April by a jury with no black members - triggered the worst urban rioting in decades in the United States, leaving 54 people dead and parts of Los Angeles in

The jury in the second trial, this time in federal court, reached the verdict Friday afternoon after 40 hours of deliberations. But the jurors asked to be allowed to return to their hotel and prepare to leave before the verdicts were read.

Judge John Davies allowed the verdict to be sealed overnight while authorities used the time to prepare for possible civil disturbances.

City police mobilised all their officers Saturday morning in anticipation of the decision. About 600 National Guard troops were standing by in armouries.

The case sparked racial tensions because Mr. King is black and the officers white. The federal jury had nine whites, two blacks, and one Hispanic; the state jury in the previous trial in suburban Simi Valley had 10 whites, one Asian, and one His-Danie.

In churches in the south central neighbourhood, hard-hit by last spring's rioting, ministers and parishioners prayed through the night. At the First Ame Church, the assembled crowd exchanged

handshakes and slaps and cheers as the verdict was announced on television Saturday.

At a shopping centre a block from Florence and Normandie avenues, the flash point of the riots, patrons reacted jubilantly. "Yeah, yeah," shouted 33-yearold Dwayne Jones as he jumped up and punched the air with his fist. "We got the main two."

At the Foothill division police station, where the defendants were stationed at the time of the beating, officers listened to the verdicts in a closed office. "Nothing surprises me anymore." said Detective Gordon Boling. the only officer who would com-

ment. President Bill Clinton said Saturday that the jury "acknowledged that his civil rights were violated."

"It appears that they really tried to do justice here." Mr. Clinton said in a radio interview minutes after the verdict was announced. "And I think that the American people should take a lot pride in that.

Mr. Koon and Mr. Powell face

(Continued on page 5)



offer of self-rule and an easing of Resolution 799, issued a day Israeli occupation measures. zal dies of heart attack

since 1967.

ANKARA (Agencies) - Turkey's eighth president, Turgut Ozal, died Saturday of a heart attack after suffering a sudden drop in blood pressure and being rushed to hospital.

The 66-year-old head of state had a history of heart trouble having undergone a coronary bypass operation in 1987. He had returned to Ankara

Thursday after an 11-day tour of

the Caucasus and Central Asia, in

which he travelled 12,000 kilometres. Often criticised for interferring in government, Mr. Ozal had an uneasy relationship with a rightleft coalition government headed by his arch rivals, Prime Minister

Suleyman Demirel. Mr. Ozal had been Mr. Demirel's right hand on economic affairs prior to the military coup of 1980 which overthrew the Demirel government and was vicepremier under the military.

As president, Mr. Ozal was accused of making decisions on issues that were beyond his powers, including declaring Turkey's support for the Western-led alliance against Iraq in the Gulf war without consulting parliament. Nicknamed "Uncle," Mr. Ozal

was a supporter of "harmonious

marriage" between traditions and modern technology. Born on October 13, 1927, in the eastern region of Malatya, he was an electrical engineer by pro-.



Turgut Ozal fession and introduced Turkey to free market economics after be-

Party (MP) in 1983. But Mr. Ozal was not able to tame rampant inflation of up to 70 per cent a year.

coming head of the Motherland

He was elected president in 1989 by a majority vote of MP deputies who held 292 of the 450 seats in the National Assembly. His two younger brothers, Yusof and Korkut, are also involved in politics.

Mr. Ozal, who was married to Semra Ozal and had three children, was an amateur of comic strips, especially Lucky Luke. He was a butt of cartoonists in

his own country who made fun of. his paunchy figure. Mr. Ozal, who favoured close

Regent sends condolences

AMMAN (Petra) - His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday sent a cable to Acting Turkish President Husamettin Cindoruk condoling him over the death of Turkish President Turgut Ozal.

promoted Turkey's merits as a secular, democratic, free-market model for its Islamic and former communist neighbours. "I express my condolences to the nation," said Mr. Demirel

ties with the West, tirelessly

before returning to the capital for an emergency cabinet meeting. Flags flew at half-mast across Turkey and state radio and television interrupted programmes to play sombre music after announcing Mr. Ozal's death. Weekend

sports fixtures were cancelled. Turkish-Cypriot north Cyprus also went into mourning for Mr. Ozal. Its leader, Rauf Denktash, sent a condolence telegram to Mr. Ozal's wife Semra, saying: "The sad news has hurt us all deeply. Your loss is also our national loss."

Mr. Ozal underwent triplebypass heart surgery in 1987 but had suffered no known relapse since then. A right-wing gunman

(Continued on page 5)

Peace process at historic point — experts | Kuwait emir's cousin

By Norma Holmes USIA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON - The new U.S. administration is in a very strong position to help bring about peace in the Middle East. according to three experts on that region. And the more active U.S. role in peace talks resuming here April 20, they say, may be crucial to that outcome.

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"President Clinton has inherited the strongest hand any American president has inherited in recent times. We have never been in a better position than we are today to bring about a solution to the conflict," says former Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy. "What is urgently needed in the process now is some success for all of the delegates to deflate the nay-

Mr. Murphy, a senior fellow for the Middle East at the nonpartisan Council on Foreign Relations, moderated an April 16 briefing on the peace process at the National Press Club. He was joined by Judith Kipper, senior programme associate for the Middle East Forum: Raghida Dergham, senior diplomatic correspondent for the Arabic daily Al Havat, and Ori Nir, Washington hureau chief for the Israeli daily

paper Haaretz. Mr. Murphy, in assessing how the Clinton administration is likely to handle the upcoming round of talks, said President Clinton and Secretary Warren Christopher "have talked of playing a

KUWAIT CITY (Agencies) -

Former U.S. President George

Bush left Kuwait late Friday after

a three-day visit and a hero's

welcome as the emirate's liber-

Mr. Bush, who was on his first

visit to the emirate, was awarded

the Mubarak Medal. Kuwait's

highest distinction, by its ruler

Sheikh Jaher Al Ahmad Al

Sabah who praised him as the key

player in the liberation of

Prior to his departure, Mr.

Bush visited U.S. troops de-

manoeuvres with Kuwaiti forces.

He told them his trip had been

terribly emotional and wonder-

ployed here and conducting joint <

Kuwait.

ator from Iraqi occupation.

full partnership role, but I don't think you're going to see that in reality until negotiations are seriously engaged. I think the United States ... is being careful until it sees the directions they are ready to move in."

Ms. Kipper said she agreed with Mr. Murphy that President Clinton "has been handed a good hand," but pointed out that if the participants are not seriously intent upon moving the process forward. "much more serious situations" are demanding U.S. time and global concern and "the U.S. could lose interest.

"I think there is a lot of hopefulness, but we shouldn't confuse the negotiation process with the larger crucial and historic issues that are taking place in the region," Ms. Kipper warned.

She said the geopolitical race in the Middle East, where "60-70 per cent of the people are under the age of 20, is between democratisation and extremism." despite the innumerable volatile and sensitive issues and problems confronting parties to the peace

"Ultimately, the greatest threat in the region today is the lack of democratisation in regimes that do not represent their Ms. Kipper under-

While direct talks "are a nice idea." Ms. Kipper said, "...it is unlikely that present talks will be successful without the direct. hands-on mediation of the United

the U.S.-led military coalition

that ousted Iraq from Kuwait in

February 1991 after seven months

of occupation, was accompanied

by his wife Barbara, members of

his family and former Secretary

The former president also re-

ceived an honorary doctorate

vered a speech before the

On Friday he visited southern

Kuwait and inspected oil lakes

created by the destruction of oil-

. "I have been in the oil business

so I find it devastating," he said

referring to the spills that marred

from Kuwait University and deli-

of State James Baker.

Kuwaiti parliament.

the countryside.

, facilities,

Arab-Israeli peace process is going to succeed, despite the negatives, despite the machinations of the parties, the zigzags and the rather peculiar role of the United States."

She said "one of the sea changes" in recent weeks is that the Israelis "are convinced that Syria is prepared to go to peace with Israel. ... They have assessed the changes in Syria as being deadly serious. Something has changed in Syria.

"I believe the Syrians will continue to return to the talks until hell freezes over and that Syrian President Hafez Al Assad will stay with those talks until thev produce an agreement," she said. Ms. Kipper said evidence of change is reflected in less harsh

rhetoric in Syrian newspapers. more tourism. "and a number of other things that bodes very, very well for an ongoing, solid position by the Syrians. Mr. Nir also noted that "new trust and confidence based on the

change in the American role" might prove to be the most important element in the process. However "negative" or tragic they first appeared to be, he said. recent major developments in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict have had a positive effect on the peace

talks. He said the "violence on the ground "between Palestinians and Israelis intensified particularly in March, and for the first time.

way I will never forget," Mr.

"Kuwaitis will be forever grate-

Mr. Bush sent 500,000 U.S.

armed forces personnel to the

Gulf in 1990 and 1991 as part of a

28-nation military coalition that

drove out Iraqi troops in Febru-

Kuwait has held a series of war

games with U.S. forces since sign-,

ing defence pacts with the coali-

tion leaders the United States.

Mr. Bush, accompanied by for-

mer White House Chief of Staff

John Sununu and former Treas-

ury Secretary Nicholas Brady.

Britain and France in 1991.

ful for your services...we will

always be proud of how (Opera-

tion) Desert Storm went.

Bush told 1,500 U.S. troops.

On a more positive note, she violent incidents occurred inside added. "I do believe that this of Israel. Those events led to the deportation of Palestinians, he said, and if it had not been for the deportations. Mr. Christopher would not have gone to the region and announced such a sweeping change in the American

> Mr. Nir said the Christopher trip produced an marked improvement in American-Israeli relations and built a relationship of trust between Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Mr. Christopher.

> The increase in violence inside Israel also created public pressure for a physical separation between the territories and Israel, and the closure of the territories has sharply reduced the number of terrorist attacks inside the green line. Mr. Nir said.

> Mr. Nir said that Mr. Rabin seems to recognise now more than in the past the urgency that is needed for progress in negotiations. Until a month ago, Mr. Nir said Rahin was convinced that progress and focus on the Syrian track was more worthwhile than on the Palestinian track. "Public attitude now conveys a certain feeling of being fed up with hold-

ing on to the territories." Another internal development. the election of Likud opposition

leader Benjamin Netanyahu. "poses a serious political threat to Rabin," and those who support the peace process and the concept of territory for peace recognise the need for a settlement, Mr. Nir

Bush ends triumphant visit to Kuwait

"terribly emotional and wonderfully fulfilling." "I have been welcomed in a way I will never forget. We have been treated by the emir and the

Mr. Bush, accompanied by defence Minister Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah, also reviewed Kuwaiti troops and watched a fly-past by six U.S. F-18 warplanes of the Kuwaiti air

Mr. Bush, who orchestrated I have been welcomed in a said his three-day visit had been occupation.

Kuwaitis with the most wondeful hospitality," Mr. Bush told the

troops at an army base.

Mr. Bush later flew out of Kuwait airport in a Kuwait Airways jumbo jet painted with the slogan "we will not forget our prisoners of war" - a reference to 600 Kuwaitis missing since the

Marines leaving their mark in Somalia

By Paul Alexander The Associated Press

MOGADISHU, Somalia - The sign of the red horse is popping up an over the area where the Marines of Charlie Company

It is on the sides of the lightarmoured vehicles patrolling the neighbourhoods straddling the line separating factional territory in Mogadishu. It is on the outside of houses where known thieves

live, and it is on the side of a school where 650 children study. Red horse is the radio call sign for Charlie Company of the 3rd Light Armoured Infantry based in Twentynine Palms, California for Mogadishu residents, it has become a symbol of stability and help as they try to rebuild from

the ashes of civil war. In between making their regular security patrols ini the area, the Marines have undertaken civic works - setting up a police force, restarting schools, clearing roads, getting the water running - as part of a "heart-and-minds"

campaign, with Somalis sharing the burden. 'When we hand out come' es or

do projects, we said Captain Robert Abbott. "No-one has ever accused us of favouring one side on the other." The police force was a priority. even though criminals can only be

JORDAN TELEVISION

Somali police patrol with the Marines, since under the U.S.-led coalition's mandate in Operation Restore Hope, the police can not carry firearms yet when they are

Marines for help with transporta-

The Yaqshid police station, the base of 150 former officers in their new dark-green uniforms, was a beehive of activity Thursday. Workers were painting the outside walls and cells. A typewriter clacked in one room.

The Marines are making sure Pakistanis, get a head start. They are painting small red horses on the houses of known bandits, some of whom are grudgingly

moving out of the area. Two schools have reopened. with the Marines supplying blackboards, books, pencils and scrap lumber for desks and chairs.

After the United Nations takes control, expected some time next month, the police will be able to chase bandits without calling the tion, communications and fire-

"The people respect us now," said the new police chief, Major Abdur Ali Ahamad. "They realise now that we have the job."

their successors in the area, the

At the Young grade school, orphans were learning the Somali

donated by the Marines.

ary 1991.

At the Tofiq school for older children, three classes were being held where bandits had stripped the roof, wooden benches and desktops from their concrete

After the Marines removed bombs from the courtyard, community leader Hassan Abdi Roble paid for corrugated steel to cover three classrooms. The Marines responded with scrap wood for new desks and benches. "It kind of snowballed," Cap-

tain Abbott said. "I've been crawling through dumpsters to scavenge pallets." The efforts are appreciated.

We are sad they are going to go home," said Maj. Ahmad, the police chief. "You can see the difference in Mogadishu. They

Minister Gomaa Al Mahdi Satur- travel sanctions. day blamed air travel sanctions to attend an Arab League meeting in Cairo Sunday.

held 48 hours before they are national song. Nine in one class know how to deal with the gangs, released because there is no court wore "Nike" Soccer" T-shirts with the children, with the old with the children, with the old

> Maj. Mohammad Ahmad, the headmaster at the Tofiq gram-mar school, added: "If the Somali people could vote, the Marines wouldn't leave."

> Ticklish problems remain. Capt. Abbott is trying to get a third school open, but squatters have been slow to move. He is concerned the project may lose momentum if it does not get going before the Marines pull

> After animated talks among the police chief, the squatters leader, and the Marines' Somali interpreter, Mr. Abbott agrees to see what he can do about clearing the cactus so the squatters can move to the courtyard of an abandoned compound across the

pathway. Libyan minister to miss Cairo talks

CAIRO (AP) - Libyan Unity official business to break the air

The year-old air travel, diimposed on Libya for his inability plomatic representation and arms sales sanctions were imposed to force Libya to turn over for trial Mr. Mahdi was quoted by the the bombing of a Pan Am flight in Libyan news agency JANA as 1988. Earlier this month, the saying that the United Nations U.N. renewed the sanctions for turned down a Libyan request to another three months without allow government delegations on escalating them.

named in fraud case

LONDON (AP) - Kuwait's external investment office said Friday it has gone to court to recover more than \$500 million from alleged frauds that cost the oilrich emirate billions.

civil lawsuit is Sheikh Fahad Al Sabah, a cousin of Kuwait's emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Fahad Ai Sabah, formerly

chairman of the Kuwait Invest-

ment Office, is said in court

papers to have moved to the

Seven of the defendants, including Fahad Al Sabah, had been charged in a criminal lawsuit brought by the Kuwait Invest-ment Office in Spain. The case was thrown out by a Spanish judge who cited a lack of evi-

dence. The Kuwaitis have filed an appeal seeking to reinstate the criminal case, and a civil case in Spain is pending.

The Kuwait Investment Office in London Friday issued a sketchy two-page statement through an outside public relations agency, but declined to elaborate on the new case, filed late Thursday in the high court.

A trial could conceivably shed some light on the previously secretive management of Kuwait's vast oil wealth. The Kuwaiti Investment Office

claims that up to \$5 billion was lost over several years as it was misappropriated in a variety of fraudulent deals.

The case in London involved only part of the missing money, apparently from several incidents that had ties to the United Kingdom. The money was lost by Grupo Torras, the Kuwait Investment Office's Spanish buisiness that is now in receivership, and Torras Hostench London, a sub-

ary filed the lawsuit, which centres around four big fraudulent

transactions that took place between May 1988 and May 1992. Three of them involved what the Kuwait Investment Office One of the 22 defendants in a calls "complicated loan agreements and claims of ficticious repayments.

In one of the transactions, the Kuwait Investment Office claims. \$300 million was paid out through a company based in Jersey, one of the Channel Islands south of England, that is used by many investors as a tax haven. The Kuwait Investment Office says it was not sure where the money went, but "a scheme was prepared to cover up the fact that this money would not be repaid."

In another deal, payments of \$55 million and \$50 million were made to another Jersey-based companyy for a stock deal on behalf of Torras Hostench London and to help Grupo Torras sell

off some unspecified assets. The court action claims that the Jersey company had neither the capability nor the intention of doing what it was supposed to do.

In a third deal, \$27.4 million was paid out to a party the Kuwaitis have not been able to track down. The Kuwait Investment Office alleges the scheme was covered up by "sham documentation" that made it look like the money was loaned to a

Gibralter-based company. The fourth deal involved \$20 million paid out to an English company for advice and management on a paper mill project in Belgium. The money was paid out last May 25, one day before some of the defendants were taken off of the Grupo Torras board.

The Kuwait Investment Office. estimated the case here will take up to two years to resolve.

Hizbollah and Amal mortar kills Israeli-allied militiaman

MARJAYOUN, Lebanon senior official of the Popular (Agencies) — Guerrillas mortared Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon Saturday. Security sources said one member of an Israeli-backed militia was killed and another wound-

The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said several mortar rounds exploded around Shoumariyeh, a hilltop position manned by Israeli troops and militiamen of the South Lebanon Army (SLA) zone's central sector.

The attack was launched as the foreign ministers of Syria, Jordan and Lebanon and senior officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) were meeting in Damascus for the second day to decide whether they would attend the ninth round of Middle East peace negotiations in Washington

The fundamentalist Iranianbacked Shrite Hizbollah and the Amal Movement, a Syrianbacked Shiite faction, said they carried out the mortar assault.

They claimed in a joint communique that one Israeli Merkava tank was destroyed. They made no mention of guerrilla casualties and there was no immediate word from Israel's military command on the clash.

Hizbollah and Amal differ on political issues, but sometimes launch joint attacks to underscore their determination to drive the Israelis out of the occupied border zone, which is predominantly

The Israelis and the SLA retaliated for the attack with a barrage of howitzar fire on the villages of Zawtar and Qaaqaiyat Al Jisr along the Litani River.

Saturday's fighting came a day after Israeli helicopter gunships attacked the motorcade of a

Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), killing three people and wounding four.

Saturday's clash raised the casualty toll in the south this year to 19 killed and 87 wounded. South Lebanon, a traditional

flashpoint in the Arab-Israeli conflict, has been wracked by violence for five weeks amid moves by the United States and Russia to resume the stalled neace taiks. Hizbollah, which like Iran

opposes the talks, invariable steps up its attacks in South Lebanon before and during each round of peace negotiations. Israel has said it will attend the

new round of talks Tuesday. Samir Sweidan, 42, a Lebanese military official of the PFLP was seriously wounded in Friday's helicopter attack.

An Israeli missile slammed into Mr. Sweidan's beige Mercedes, shredding it to pieces and setting it on fire. Mr. Sweidan managed to jump out but his wife and

daughter were burned alive. A civilian was also killed and three others wounded when their house was hit by another missile which also targeted Mr. Sweidan, the source said.

Mr. Sweidan was rushed in critical condition to the Sidon hospital in South Lebanon while the bodies of his wife and child were taken to a Typre hospital. Earlier, Lebanese police said the first missile had killed all the car's passengers.

The source equated the Israeli attack with one which killed Hizbollah chief Abbas Mussawi in February 1992 when Israeli helicopters pinned down his convoy.

Israel last raided South Lebanon on Tuesday when its helicopters carried out a series of attacks against Hizbollah strongholds in the region after three parachutists were killed and two wounded in a bomb attack.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Boy killed, girl injured from U.S. bomb

NICOSIA (AP) - An eight-year-old Iraqi boy was killed and his sister was seriously injured Friday when a cluster bomb detonated in northern Iraq, the Iraqi News Agency reported. The agency said the bomb apparently was among those dropped on April 9 by U.S. fighter jets. There was no way to independently confirm the report. U.S. jets dropped four cluster bombs near the Saddam Dam in Iraq's northern Nineveh province after Iraqi anti-aircraft batteries tracked the jets with radar and fired, according to the U.S. European command in Stuttgart, Germany. The jets were patrolling the "no-fly" zone imposed by the United States, France and Britain over northern Iraq. Iraq said a soldier guarding the dam was injured by one of the bombs. The Iraqi News Agency said the "unexploded cluster bomb" went off "near a dam in Nineveh governorate." "The bombs had been dropped at Saddam Dam by U.S. planes last week," the agency said. It added that "at the time of the explosion, the area was packed with families enjoying the spring greenery.

IRNA warns of consequences of Major-Rushdie talks

LONDON (R) — Britain's trade relations with Islamic nations could be hit if Prime Minister John Major meets author Salman Rushdie as planned, the Iranian news agency (IRNA) warned Friday. Mr. Major's office confirmed earlier this week that the conservative prime minister planned to meet the British author of "The Satanic Verses" who is under sentence of death by Iran for alleged blasphemy. In a report from London, IRNA said the prospects for a planned visit to Iran on May 6 by a London Chamber of Commerce delegation were "not optimistic." It quoted a spokeswoman for the Chamber of Commerce as saying that indications from the British embassy in Tehran were that visas would not be granted. "According to the daily Salaam newspaper, quoting Iranian officials, visa applications for the mission were also said to have been rejected," the agency said. It gave warning that a meeting between Mr. Major and Mr. Rushdie would have further consequences. "Many fear the situation could prove to be even more self-defeating and could rebound on trade with other Muslim countries," the agency declared. "Much now may be fruitless unless he (Major) follows the advice of some of his colleagues and does not allow himself to be dragged more deeply into the Rushdie affair and regret it later," IRNA said.

CIA chief reportedly visited Egypt

WASHINGTON (AP) - Central Intelligence Agency (CIA): Director R. James Woolsey paid a secret visit to Egypt this week, meeting with President Hosni Mubarak to discuss the extent of Iranian support for militant Islam in the region, official sources said Friday. Mr. Woolsey, who assumed office in February, was on an orientation tour of several Middle Eastern and European countries, including Israel and Italy, said one source who spoke only on condition of anonymity. The CIA routinely declines to discuss the director's travels for reasons of security. An official familiar with his tour said Mr. Woolsey was particularly interested in hearing Egyptian officials' assessment of the extent to which radical Islamic forces are gaining influence around the Middle East with the military and financial support of Iran. Egypt has accused Iran of training and arming Islamic radicals seeking to overthrow the Egyptian government through a terror campaign against officials and tourists. Mr. Mubarak briefed President Bill Clinton on the subject when he visited Washington last week in a high-profile visit designed to underscore U.S. support for the embattled leader. The United States is also concerned about growing tensions between Iran and Egypt, which last month threatened to launch a military strike if the Iranians base warships in neighbouring Sudan. Egypt has told the United States it has information that Iran plans to base warships in Port Sudan on the strategically located Red Sea, officials said. Sudan has a fundamentalist Muslim government that has for the past year allied itself increasingly with the clerics ruling Iran. Egypt has also told the United States that Iranian Revolutionary guards are training Muslim fundamentalists in Sudan for attacks in Egypt, the officials said. Iran has denied all the Egyptian charges.

Oman to hold first population census

DUBAI (R) - Oman will hold its first national census in December to establish accurate figures on its fast-growing population tion and help long-term development planning, a central bank publication said. Al Markazi magazine said previous studies estimated Oman's population at around two million. Improved medical care, lower infant mortality and higher living standards had all contributed to an estimated annual growth of 3.5 per cent, it said, predicting that the 1993 census would come up with a higher figure. Revenue from Oman's oil production, currently around 750,000 barrels a day, has brought rapid development in the last 20 years to the previously impoverished country. Half the population is now thought to be under 18. Al Markazi said the census would start on Dec. 1 and last for 10 days. Results would be published soon afterwards. "The fifth-year plan will be built on accurate population and property statistics," Al Markazi said.

Palestinian sentenced to 30 years in jail in U.S.

NEW YORK (R) - A Palestinian from the Black September organisation was sentenced Friday to 30 years in jail for three attempted car bombings against Israeli offices in New York more than 20 years ago. Khalid Mohammad Al Joffsem, also known as Al Jawary, was given three consecutive terms of 10 years each after his conviction last month. He was found guilty on March 8 of planting three bombs on March 4, 1973, outside the first Israel Bank and Trust and the Israeli Discount Bank in Manhattan and at the El Al Airline terminal at Kennedy Airport. The bombings were carried out on behalf of the Black September organisation of which Jawary was a member. His conviction came just days after the World Trade Centre bombing on Feb. 26. Once the cultural attache of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in Cyprus. Jawary, 45, managed to delay sentencing for a day by delivering a three-hour monologue before federal Judge Jack Weinstein. Prosecutor Charles Rose said the monologue included "a history of the PLO and a lot about Yasser Arafat and the supposed conspiracy of the Israeli government against him." At a resumed hearing Friday morning, Jawary was given his sentence.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Tel: 773111-19	Church
PROGRAMME TWO 17:30	623541. Anglican 628543. Armenia
19:80 News in French 19:15 Le Journal de L'histoire 19:30 News in Hebrew	771331. Armenia 775261.
20:30 Nows in Arabic 10:30 Executive Stress 21:19 Documentary 22:00 News in English	St. Ephri Amman 652526. Evangelik
22:20 Voltaire	K24328.

PRAYER TIMES

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WEATHER

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fordan will remain under the effect of the khamsini weather conditions. Therefore, it will be hot, dry and dusty, with the appearance of some clouds during the day. Winds will be southeasterly fresh. In Agaha, winds

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Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency
Rescue Police 192, 621111. 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Scounty Department
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661 176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Complaints
(directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100
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Flight Information 08-53200 cn Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200

Greek Catholic Hospital Ibn Al Nafees Hospital..... Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111 FOR THE TRAVELLER

AIRPORT This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Oueen Alia Internal Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, who

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights - Bressch, Larmecs (RJ) Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ) .. Doha, Bahraia (RI) Madrid (RI 18:30 Bressch, Paris (RJ)

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not optimize U.S. Central Command General Joseph Hoar.

Com Hoar discussed relations Sharif Zeid and Gen. Hoar discussed relations in 1 chran were he. between Jordan and the U.S. in military fields. The Snaru Zere and the U.S. in military fields. The fields Salam needs to the management of the management of the management of the management of the sound that the would have to the mount of the sound that the would have to the sound that the would have the would hav trade with other to

Lieutenant General Abdul Hafez Mirai Al Kaabneh. The two discussed the situation in the Middle East region and scopes of cooperation between the two countries in military fields. The meeting was attended by the Chief of Staff of the Land Forces, several assistants of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Chief of Staff of the Royal Air Force, Mr. Harrison and the U.S. military attache.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

King congratulates President Mugabe

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable to the President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, to congratulate him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian people and government on his country's national day. King Hussein wished Mr. Mugabe good health and the people of Zimbabwe further progress and prosperity.

Crown Prince receives visiting Pakistani cadets

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Saturday received a delegation representing the Pakistani National Defence college. Prince Hassan reviewed with the delegation Jordanian-Pakistani relations and briefed them on the situation in the region and Jordan's stand on various issues. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for Operations and Training and the Pakistani ambassador to Jordan. Also Saturday Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Lieutenant-General Abdul Hafez Mirai Al Kaabneh received at the Army General Headquarters the visiting Pakistani delegation. Lt.-Gen. Kaabneh and the delegation members reviewed the situation in the Middle East region in general, and scopes of cooperation between the Armed Forces of fordan and Pakistan in particular. The delegation members, headed by Major General Sayyed Haidar, were briefed on the development of the Jordanian Anned Forces.

Princess Alia visits social development ministry

AMMAN (Petra) - Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Bint Al Hussein Saturday visited the Ministry of Social Development. She was received by Social Development Minister Amin Awad Mashaqba and senior ministry officials who briefed her on the role of the ministry in providing care for the handicapped and in combatting poverty. Princess Alia was also briefed on the role of the ministry in developing the local society through launching small income-generating projects.

Jordan joins world in marking Earth Day

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan, along with other countries, will mark Earth Day on April 22. The Royal Jordanian Society for the Conservation of Nature, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and other government departments and concerned organisations has prepared a special programme to observe the

Texture, colour chronicle history

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Tents and stones, nails and wood, water colours and brass, black, red, yellow and brown and more black and more

entrack the first I Manhaus? -While Samia Zaru's exhibit at Larry Bachester the Abdul Hameed Shoman THE STREET Foundation Gallery does show a in the in E few faint water colour faces on 1 har to the wooden slabs, her exhibit The Party of the uses texture and symbolism to the letter rather than flags and sad faces to tell the story of the people she has spent most of the last 20 years

Cartan and the S chronicling. "Straight lines in vivid red. orange and black are like lines

drawn in the sand, to use the well-known phrase. Ms. Zaru's lines leave no

doubt that her subject matter is an issue where right and wrong are clearly defined. Her use of old, almost petrified

wood as her canvas is symbolic of an agelessness of the struggle between right and wrong.

Imbedded in nature as witnesses to history her wooden pieces speak to us from the past while testifying to the present. Her often collage-like work

pieces brass, tent material, nails and wood to engrave the refugee experience into the texture of the art that she weaves.

She has painted the nails that almost melt into the wood bright vellow, red and blue so that no one can miss them.

They stick out and hurt the eye in the same way that they have

hurt the wood. ·A deep penetration into the essence of the harmonious pieces

of wood, the nails have violated the wood permanently. The bright colours Ms. Zaru

has put on the nails are intended as a reminder - lest we forget. Unconscious or not, the religious symbolism in Ms. Zaru's work cannot be ignored.

The nails that were hammered into the flesh of Jesus are now hammered into the peoples of his native land.

Ms. Zaru's work is recognisably the work of a Palestinian. Her figures raise their arms in prayer to god; pleadingly the arms are outstretched and are bent as the Muslims bend their arms to touch their faces in the Islamic prayer.

One wooden piece has chronicled a church scene of prayer. Although some of the 1989-1992 work exhibited at the Shoman gallery deals with the intifada and the destination of the Gulf war, Ms. Zaru's has dedicated all of her 1993 work to the deportees

in Marj Al Zohour. While her other work comes from her experience of living under occupation and the refugee experience, the Marj Al Zohour series is abstract.

"I have had no contact with the people deported to Marj Al Zohour," says the artist. "So my relationship with them is abstract

and symbolic." Herself the wife of a deported Palestinian, Ms. Zaru relates to

the concept of deportation. Red flowers in the Marj Al Zohour collection, which itself means flower bed, are erroneous.

Representing the "beauty in exile," they are in fact Palestinian flowers - reminding the exiled of their home. As one enters the exhibit,

which features both Ms. Zaru and artist Adnan Yahya, one is welcomed by a huge tent held down by pebbles and stones and banners which say humanity, equal rights and justice. The tent, says Ms. Zaru, came

But after the tent came confu-

People lost in exile, refugees saving wooden pieces from their long destroyed towns and villages, hoping they will help them

find their way back. The Zaru exhibit reveals its creator as an artist and a chronic-

ler of history. The exhibit is open until the

end of the month.

First in series looks at **Islamic** Action Front

By Sa'eda Kilani Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Researchers started publishing the first of a series of books on political parties in Jor-dan to clear up — before the next parliamentary elections — what they saw as the public confusion created by the existence of a large number of parties and the incomprehension of their aims and objectives.

The first book of the series is on the Islamic Action Front party (IAF) and was published "due to its importance," said Hani Hourani, one of its authors and the director of the Al Urdun Al Jadid Research Centre.

The series will include reviews of each of the remaining 16 par-

ties licensed to date, The book on the Islamic Action Front party, which will also be published in English, ques-tions the real motives behind the establishment of the party: "Can this declared adherence to demotemporary stand or is it a constant strategic one?" question its au-

BOOK REVIEW

One argument offered by the authors is that the LAF was established because the Muslim Brotherhood movement was incapable of confronting current challenges posed by the democratisation of Jordan. They said:

... The Islamic Action Front party can also be considered as the solution to the dogmatic standstill the Muslim Brotherhood movement has been suffering from and its incapacity to adapt to the swift changes in the international political arena."

Also highlighted in the book is the clash that took place between the independents and the Muslim Brotherhood members at the time of the elections of the LAF shura (consultative) council.

"To independents, the results of the shura council elections were a violent shock ... they considered the landslide victory of the Muslim Brotherhood a breach of their previous agreement and of the IAF commitment to pluralism."

The analysis, carried out by the centre's researchers — Hani Hourani, Taleb Awad and Hamed Dababseh — is based upon statistics, background information on the party's founders and the Muslim Brotherhood movement, as well as upon interviews conducted by the resear-chers with the IAFs general

secretary, Ishaq Al Farhan. In providing a comprehensive outlook of the party's objectives, the book reviews the party's future projects and its capability to fulfill its announced slogans and

"We aim at presenting an objective analysis of each party without taking sides," said Mr. Honrani.

"The centre (Al Urdun Al Jadid) seeks to become the reference to politicians, researchers and all interested individuals from different affiliations."

According to Mr. Hourani, an English version of the book on the Islamic Action Front party will be published in two weeks.

Islamic Action Front Party, A Guide to Political Parties in Jordan. Hani Hourani, Dr. Taleb Awad, Hamed Dababseh, Al Urdun Al Jadid Research Centre, Amman, 1993, pp130

Crown Prince explains regional disparities to visiting European Parliament delegation

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, received at the Royal Court Saturday a visiting delega-tion from the European Parliament and discussed the Middle East situation and the Arab-Israeli peace process.

The Regent explained Jordan's position vis-a-vis the conflict and its stand with regard to the peace talks, stressing the importance of a comprehensive and durable set-

Prince Hassan said peace must be "for the people."

He discussed the disparities in the region, including economic and social imbalances, particularly Israel versus Palestine and

The Crown Prince said that such disparities are the root cause of instability in the region. He also pointed to the lack of synergy between demography on the one hand, and human condi-

Ísrael versus Jordan.

tions and economic situations in the Middle East on the other. He called for a re-definition of the Middle East based on a re-

gional ethos or concept. Prince Hassan explained that over the past four decades the assimilation of Palestinians into Jordan has not been recognised by the international community in terms of political economy and more recently in the World Bank's restructuring programme for Jordaπ.

European nations to play a meaningful role in ensuring security and peace in the region, through the implementation of

U.N. resolutions. The visiting parliamentarians earlier met Ahmad Al Lawzi, speaker of the Senate, and other senators for a discussion on the development of the peace pro-

rights of all parties to the Arab-

For his part, Dr. Zaben urged

resolutions.

Israeli conflict.

Mrs. Marfeld said the delegation was on a fact-finding tour of the countries in the Middle East and would report on their findings to the European Parliament at its general assembly meeting in

Mr. Lawzi said the delegation's

Addressing a press conference

at the Ministry of Social Develop-

ment. Prince Ra'd said the 1993

law on the handicapped served as

a qualitative step forward to-

wards catering to the needs of the

handicapped people and helping them to become useful citizens of

The announcement of the new

law was made on the eve of the 40th anniversary of His Majesty

the community.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan the Regent Saturday meets with visiting members of the

In outlining the situation in the occupied Arab lands, Mr. Lawzi

King Hussein's assumption of his

constitutional powers as King

Hussein has always demonstrated

his keenness on promoting the

well-being of the handicapped,

The law reasserts the rights of

the handicapped to education,

health and social services, and

provides for the removal of all

barriers to their participation in

and health ministries to offer

educational and health services to

the handicapped free-of-charge, and the Ministry of Labour will

provide suitable vocational

courses to handicapped children,

It provides for the education

public life. Prince Ra'd said.

said Prince Ra'd.

European Parliament headed by Elizabeth Marfeld (second from left) (Petra photo)

visit came on the eve of the start forms of repression in violation of of the ninth round of the Arab-Israeli bilateral talks, adding that Jordan was eager to see the U.N. resolutions on the Middle East

question implemented.

nternational rules. met Saturday with Hussein Ham-On Arab-European relations, mami, the Foreign Ministry's international rules.

East and its historic links with the Arabs ought to encourage it to play a key role in re-establishing justice.

Prince Ra'd said companies

employing up to 50 workers will

employ at least one handicapped

person and those firms with more

than 50 employees will have two

per cent of their workers selected

from the trained and skillful

The European delegation also Mr. Lawzi maintained that secretary general Mr. Hammami Europe's proximity to the Middle urged the European community to help the Middle East reach the aspired peace and to help end Israel's malpractices against the

and tools used in their productive

customs duty.

taxes, he added.

projects, will be exempt from

that care for the handicapped,

will be exempt from real estate

All organisations and societies

Cabinet New law on handicapped goes into effect approves AMMAN (Petra) - Chief JD 84,000 Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid Saturday announced the new Jordanian Law on the Handto support icapped People and said that a higher national council has been set up in order to implement its charities

AMMAN (Petra) - The Cabinet Saturday approved a recommendation by Minister of Social Development Amin Awad Mashaqbeh concerning continuing the annual government support to charitable societies around the Kingdom to enable them to perform their charity

in this respect, the Cabinet approved extending ID 84,000 to these societies in all parts of

In a meeting chaired by Prime er Snamt Zeid Ben Shaker. the Cabinet also approved concluding an agreement with the Islamic Development Bank under which the bank will extend a \$204,000 loan and \$267,000 grant to the government to finance conducting a feasibility study on pumping water from Al Disi area, in south Jordan, to Amman.

Under the terms of the agreement, the bank will finance 65 per cent of the costs of the first phase of the study and the government

will finance the rest. The government will be committed to pay back the loan over 16 years, with a four-year grace

The Cabinet also approved Jordan's participation in several Arab and international conferences and named delegations to these events.

clergy

Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) - A delegation

representing the Anglican Church in England and led by Rt. Rev. David Hope, the Lord Bishop of London, is currently on

a short visit to Jordan to visit

archaeological and touristic sites

Rev. Hope is accompanied by

his press officer Rev. Rob Mar-

shall, relgious editor of The

Times newspaper, Ruth Gledhil,

and Rev. Tim Thornton, the

The bishop and his team, who

arrived here Friday from the occupied West Bank, are ex-

pected to end their visit to Jordan

Sunday and return to the occu-

pied territories, organisers said.

On Saturday, the group toured

the Nabatean city of Petra and

the southern regions of Jordan.

The bishop of London is

It was the first time a leader of

second to the archbishop of the

bishop's administrative officer.

visit

in the Kingdom.

fessional matters.

crease

direct its attention away from politics and towards purely pro-

He added that under the

doctors can practice their political activities within any one of these parties and outside the realm of the JMA, which exists to serve

At present the JMA is dominated by political ideologies which tend to divide the association

The 30 candidates who ran for board membership were grouped into two political arenas: The Islamist whites and the coalition of leftist greens.

The greens secured four seats on the new board, and the whites won the remaining five seats. gaining one from the green's list in the previous election two years

handicapped persons. He also said the Ministry of The higher national council to follow up and supervise the im-Youth will continue to provide sports activities for handicapped youth and the Ministry of Social Development will ensure social

and voluntary services to handicapped children. He said under the terms of the new law, all equipment used in the education and medical treatment of the handicapped, as well

plementation of the law will be chaired by the Minister of Social Development and will group representatives of a number of concerned ministries and parents of the handicapped.

Apart from implementing the law, he said, the national council will draw up plans aimed at promoting the training of and services as their own means of transport to the handicapped.

JMA chief pledges to upgrade medical profession

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter AMMAN -- Ishaq Maraga, who

was elected Jordan Medical Association (JMA) president for a second two-year term Friday. says he has plans to upgrade the medical profession in the Kingdom.

In a statement to the Jordan Times Saturday, Dr. Maraga said that through the help of the newlyelected nine-member JMA board, he expects to introduce amendments to the association law that would better address the needs of the medical association whose members are on the in-

The new board, he said, will

umbrella of democracy in Jordan and in view of the creation of 17 the medical profession.

This policy, Dr. Maraqa said, opens the way for various doctors to reach to the JMA board or become president of the association based on their medical profession rather than their political

members into factions, he said.

political parties, JMA-registered ago.

Dr. Maraqa won 990 votes in was minimal.

There are Friday's presidential election in the face of strong competition from four other doctors: Hassan Badran, Haidar Madani, Saadi Dab-

bour and Ahmad Dahbour. The total number of doctors who cast votes for the presidential seat was 2,247 and the total number of those who voted for the board members was 3,240. The total number of eligible

voters was 4,340, according to JMA sources. The following doctors won

seats on the new board: Daoud Muhtaseb, Yousef Othman, Mohammad Nazzal, Jaafar Huneiti, Ahmad Armouti. Mohammad Qatawneh, Yousef Muasher, Adam Abdullat and Basem Daiani.

Dr. Maraga said the JMA has 10,337 registered doctors, but the number was growing each year. Asked about the number of

unemployed doctors, he said, it

There are opportunities for doctors to open clinics in remote regions of Jordan, and the government works to help solve any unemployment problem through its continued drive to open health

centres and hospitals. Dr. Maraga maintained. But most importantly, Dr. Maraqa said, is that the Gulf states, notably Saudi Arabia, _have started to open their doors

once again to employing Jordanian physicians and specialists. The new JMA president said that last week he received a request from Saudi Arabia for 100 Jordanian doctors to be given

iobs in its hospitals, The voting, which was held in Amman at the Professional Asso-

ciation Complex as well as in Karak and Irbid, went smoothly and in a brotherly atmosphere. Dr. Maraga remarked.

Islamic commerce panel to meet in Amman

Anglican AMMAN (Petra) — The Executive Committee of the Islamic Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Commodity Exchange will meet in Amman Monday with the participation of Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour and delegations representing 19 Islamic countries and the Organisation of Islamic Confer-

ence (OIC). Vice-president of the federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce Haidar Issa Murad, who is deputy vice-president of the Islamic Chamber for the Middle East Region, said the chamber's sub-committee will hold meetings on Sunday to review its regulations and by-laws in preparation for Monday's meeting.

He said the sub-committee compromises representatives of Iran, Jordan, Pakistan, Syria, Mali, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Mr. Murad said participants in the executive committee's meetings include representatives of Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Egypt. Iran, Indonisia. Jordan, Mali, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Senegal, Syria, Tunisia,

Turkey, Uganda, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the OIC.

> said, will elect in the opening session a chairman, deputy chairman and rapporteur. They will also review a report on the activities of the chamber's general secretariat since last November, the chamber's finan-

Participants in the meetings, he

cial situation and reports by its various committees, he said. Mr. Murad added that the executive committee will also discuss the prospect of sending de-

legations from the chamber of

four geographic regions in the Islamic world to bolster cooperation among Islamic countries.

The committee, he continued. will also discuss sending teams to eight underdeveloped countries and to other more developed countries to discuss with their officials future plans for joint investments.

The Islamic chamber, based in Karachi, Pakistan, was established in 1977 following a decision by the first conference of Islamic Chambers of Industry and Trade which convened the same year in istanbul.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

☆ Art exhibition entitled "The Legend of Petra II" by artist

Suha Shoman at the National Gallery for Fine Arts. Exhibition entitled "Recreation" by Jordanian, French and Iraqi artists, inspired by a sculpture by Iraqi artist Mohammad

Hussein Abdullah, at the French Cultural Centre. Art exhibition by Samia Al Zaru and Adnan Yahya at the Abdul Harneed Shoman Foundation Gallery. * Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Lujaina Al Aseel at Baladna Art

* Exhibition of books and educational facilities at the International Expo Centre.

Exhibition of prints, entitled "Architectural Motifs from the Arab World," by Rima Farah at the gallery, Hotel Jordan Intercontinental.

THEATRE

Arabic play entitled "The Dawn and Sunset of a Girl Called Yasmin" at 7 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Groups call on world to end Israeli abuses

AMMAN (J.T.) — Two local organisations have issued appeals to the world community to intervene and put an end to Israel's malpractices in the occupied Arab lands and help re-establish the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in their homeland.

The Orthodox Central Council Saturday said in a statement that Israel's continued closure of the occupied West Bank deprived the Palestinian people of their right

The council's chairman Raouf Abu Jaber said that the Orthodox community in Jordan condemns this "unjust and repressive treatment of the Palestinian people and appeals to Arab and interna-

tional organisations to move swiftly to end the ordeal of the "oppressed people."

Dr. Abu Jaber in particular referred to the Israeli authorities' measures to prevent Christians from reaching the holy sites on the eve of Easter, according to the Eastern calendar, saving that it was only under Israel's rule that religious rights have been denied to the local communities.

The Amman-based Royal Commission For Jerusalem Affairs also issued a similar appeal to the world community and world organisations, as weil as to the World Islamic League to help end the Israeli military siege on the occupied West Bank and

to celebrate Easter in the holy city of Jerusalem.

Anglican Church worldwide. the Anglican church made a visit to Israel, including the occupied lands, and Jordan in a package

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Water? Not everywhere

SUMMER HAS descended on us rather prematurely this year, and probably with a bit of vengeance too. With the heat wave soaring into new heights even in the middle of the spring season, the water problem looms already ever more ominously in the horizon. As in every summer time we remind ourselves rather ritually that the country's strategic water reserves are nowhere acar what the Kingdom needs now, it is time again to take stock of where we are and where we are going in the perpetual quest for a solution to the water problem. The figures about the water shortages speak for themselves and underscore the urgency of the situation. The minister of water and irrigation, Mr. Samir Kawar, has already announced that the water shortage for this year is expected to reach no less than 321 million cubic metres. This figure is projected to reach a phenomenal 574 million cubic metres in the year 2005.

The solution to this growing problem is clearly both economic as well as political. With the natural resources of the country being what they are, limited at best, there has got to be a regional formula for Jordan's water requirements as well as those of our neighbours. True that the increase in population in Jordan has been unusually high lately due to the influx of our people from the Gulf region in the aftermath of the Gulf war in 1990-91; still the natural population growth in the country is in itself high enough, having reached the rate of 3.6 per cent in last year alone. There is no escape from the conclusion that Jordanians would have to look inward for part of the solution at least and externally for a permanent panacea.

The country has been preaching about the urgent need for water rationalisation for some time already with little success. It seems that Jordanians have yet to acquire a culture for conservation including when it comes to water in spite of the fact that water is the mainstay of the country. Resort to pricing schemes in a bid to control water usage has not succeeded either because the rich among us simply cannot care enough about how high the price water is, especially when it comes to satisfying their lust for water in the summer. Even water distribution plans have failed to curb the overuse of water simply because the baves among us simply fill their large reservoirs during the days when the municipality water is flowing normally into their homes. The attempts by the government both local and central to control of water seapage and waste has yet to reach the level that would make a difference to the water crisis. Dam constructions have indeed solved part of the problem, but again the level of dam and reservoir construction has yet to reach the point that could make a final or strategic difference. It would seem that the long-range solution lies in a regional agreement on water sharing. Left unresolved, the water problem in the Middle East could trigger not one but a series of wars. Until final resolution is reached. however, we have to do homework here. Every measure that can be taken now must be adopted as if a long-term solution does not exist.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE ARAB parties to the peace talks with Israel are facing a crucial moment in deciding whether to go to the American capital on April 20 or not, said Sawt Al Shaab Arabic daily Saturday. This is because the U.S. administration, which is supposed to facilitate the Arab participation and the smooth resumption of the talks, is practically placing obstacles in the path of the negotiations by its total bias towards Israel which by no means reflects its claim that it would play the role of full partner in the coming parley, said the daily. Washington is continuing to back Israel's disregard of Resolution 799, on the question of the expellees, and supports Israel's repressive measures against the Palestinians who are now under siege, the paper added. The Palestinian delegation, whose members have been having talks in Washington, realised this fact and found that the Americans are adopting unclear stands with regard to the peace process and are adamantly rejecting the Palestinian demands which, if met, would facilitate the return of the Palestinian delegation to the negotiating table, the paper continued. It said that Washington believes that all the outstanding issues concerning the expellees and the Israeli repressive measures can be discussed in Washington, and is therefore urging the Arab parties to go to the talks with no prior conditions. But, the paper said, this American position gives no guarantee that the Israelis would repatriate the expellees or ease their repressive measures in the occupied lands. This American position, said the paper, is not only obstructing the resumption of the talks, but also embarassing the Palestinian delegation before the Palestinian people.

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i Arabic daily demanded that the current election law be slightly amended to give way for women to be elected. Nadia Aloul said that Jordanian women have often heard promises by the deputies, before and after the 1989 election, that they would advocate women's causes and support their rights. But nothing has been done and achieved for women who are still treated differently from men and discriminated against at various levels, said the writer. Democracy, which has started permeating the life of Jordan, can never be complete, said the writer, if certain sectors of the public remain deprived of their legitimate rights and their freedom. There can be no chance for women to reach Parliament, added the writer, as long as women in this country continue to suffer from the remnants of the dark ages and are deprived of free will. She said that there is a strong relationship between democracy and freedom but this, unfortunately, is inapplicable in the case of women in Jordan who, she said, are not granted the right to choose deputies or be elected and participate in the works of the legislative authority.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Coping with foreign indebtedness

The overall volume of foreign indebtedness of the developing countries, including the old Soviet republics and East European countries, is now in the order of \$1,500 billion.

Foreign indebtedness is still on the rise. The outstanding balance is estimated to have risen by 5 per cent in 1992. When the crisis of international indebtedness erupted in 1982, total debts of the Third World countries were around \$840 billion. Ten years later, it is about double that much.

Lenders finally realised that the developing countries are not able to repay their debts. Not now nor in the foreseen future. As a matter of fact those countries are obliged to seek further borrowing to finance the gap in their balance of payments, and to secure the minimum requirements of imports. Several reasons were responsible for the overgrowth of

indebtedness during the seventies and early eighties: One: To finance economic and social development, because domestic savings were insufficient or non-existent. It was common sense, at the time, that the returns of development will be more

than enough to repay the debt and interest.

— Two: Military governments and dictatorships in the Third World, which borrowed recklessly simply to raise the standard of living of the population by artificial means, thus borrowing time and buying the implied consent of the people despite the deteriorating situation.

- Three: The spread of corruption. Regimes borrowed aggressively from the international market, not to build projects. but to collect kick-backs and finance their capital flight. - Four: A group of countries borrowed extensively to purchase armaments and finance local wars and conflicts. The Third World witnessed numerous wars during the 45 years which followed World War II.

It is evident now that debtor countries will not be able to repay their debts at any future date. In order for the developing countries to be net payers to the industrialised countries, they should have a surplus in their balance of payments, i.e., they should become net exporters of goods and services to the industrialised countries. This is obviously not probable in the

Therefore, the problem of foreign indebtedness will live with us for a long time. Most likely, the debt will be judged as bad and will be written off sooner or later. For the time being, the practice is to reduce the debt and reschedule payments for prolonged periods. This will only help lenders to build reserves, sufficient to forego the debt with a stroke of the pen and without shocks or other negative consequences.

In order for the debtor countries to benefit from the current relief schemes and postpone the burden, they have to show that they are serious about reforming their economies, and removing the distortions through the application of an economic adjustment programme approved by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In the case of Jordan, the outstanding debt has declined to \$6.5 billion by the end of 1992. The reasons for this substantial reduction are: partial repayment of certain categories of debt and the buy-backs from the secondary market at 62 per cent discount. 'Jordan was buying its own debt at 38 cents cash to the dollar.

Jordan also cancelled several big acquisitions, which were supposed to be financed by loans, covering military and civiliant

At the same time, the economic adjustment programme which was adopted by Jordan was a success. The Jordanian economy performed well in 1992 and exceeded most of the targets set by the programme. These achievements gave Jordan a stronger bargaining position from which to obtain the best possible terms.

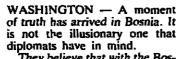
Jordan has already signed an agreement with the Paris Club, which encompasses all creditor states, whereby debts coming due by mid-1993 were rescheduled for 20 years with 10 years grace. Another agreement with the Paris Club is expected to reschedule all debts falling due by the end of 1994 at the same favourable terms and conditions.

Negotiations with the London Club, which includes banks and other commercial lenders, are going on and off. The government of Jordan feels confident and can wait until such time when banks become ready to give sufficient concessions. Until then, the government was active in buying back debt from the secondary market at a discount ranging from 65 to 68 per cent. It is worth mentioning that around one third of the commercial debt has already been bought back at the above mentioned discount. If the agreement with the London Club is to stall for some time, the club will have very little outstanding debt remaining for negotiation.

The crisis of Jordan's foreign indebtedness has been contained. It is now under full control. It is no longer a hurdle in the face of growth and investments in a stable climate.

Enough talking — genocide in Bosnia has to stop

By Sadruddin Aga Khan



They believe that with the Bosnian Muslims' and Croats' signing of the United Nations peace accord the pressure on the Serbs has mounted, and that the Serbs will risk further isolation and condemnation unless they sign. Not since Neville Chamberlain's capitulation at Munich has the world expected so much of war criminals.

The homilies and promises of a new world order will not be worth the countless hours of speeches. voluminous contents of foreign policy journals, mountains of U.N. documentation and talking heads' pieties on television if the world fails its straightforward

Genocide is being carried out on television news every day. This is not Cambodia, where we outsiders could pretend we did

not see it. The world has told the Serbs to stop. The Security Council has threatened. Europe, Russia, America and others have pounded their fists and said "Enough!" The Serbs are not the only wrongdoers in the war, but they are the principal ones and are unstopable. They may soon resume the large-scale "ethnic cleansing." The test is this: Is the international community finally going to block them?

At a moment of raised expectations, the United Nations is being made the world's fig leaf. The whole moral foundation of its existence is in jeopardy. Its envoy, Cyrus Vance, and his European Community counterpart, Lord Owen, were obliged to negotiate with war criminals and



Sadruddin Aga Khan

thus accord them legitimacy. People who should face international tribunals and prison have enjoyed the prestige and courtesies of U.N. meetings and all the diplomatic niceties.

The negotiators accepted the Serbs' wish for an ethnically divided Bosnia: The Serbs would get to keep territory seized in some of the ugliest warfare of our

The humanitarian needs of the besieged civilians were politically neglected to keep the Serbs talking. The Muslim majority, deprived of self-defence by a U.N. embargo, saw its concerns pushed aside. Conquest and ethnic cleansing were rewarded in

This charade was worth the price if, when the agreement was within reach, the international community was willing to turn on the Serbs and do whatever it took to enforce a settlement. Only then could the means be forgiven

as a way to the ends. Now ends lit in the Balkans may be longer stretch off into á vague distance. With the Serbs isolated, we are told that further action against them can occur only when they have signed the accords — which their parliament rejected — and then do not abide by them. So

what must be done has again been postponed, and more U.N. limp hand-holding is left to take the place of a credible threat of The U.S. administration and Congress have indicated that they are as reluctant to see U.S. troops involved as European govern-

ments are to see a widened role for their contingents. So when the bluff was called, it was not the Serbs but the international community whose bluster was ex-One day we may wonder how we let smooth-talking opinion, makers con us into believing that

vital one, as Kuwait was. This conflict has put believers of the two biggest religions at each others' throats, stoked ugly Russian nationalism, threatened Kosovo and Macedonia and stirred ancient hostilities among Turks, Greeks, Albanians and

this conflict in the heart of

Bulgarians. Only a moral issue? For Islamic governments. whose tepid response has been no firmer than that of their western counterparts, this mass murder of Muslims puts new strains on their efforts at home to contain religious radicalisation and protect

their own minorities. From Central Asia to Europe, the large Muslim populations' relations with their neighbours can only be aggravated. If a threat to oil is the criterion for intervention, then the fuse that has been

 but is no less dangerous ~ than that posed by the invasion of Kuwait. In a world where ethnic, religious and nationalist conflicts are considered the new menace, the international community is failing the test.

The recommendations by a team President Bill Clinton sent to Bosnia to evaluate the plight of civilians are long overdue. (Will he act upon them?) The team suggests that he weigh the creation of "safe havens" protected by international military forces to ensure delivery of aid and stop the Serbs' artillery. The team properly suggests that those havens be centres of habitual residence that are being shelled. It would be a mistake to uproot populations and create such havens elsewhere in Bosnia.

The Vance-Owen peace talks were diplomacy on the cheap: words without force. The interna-Europe was a moral issue rather a: tional community has no choice but to begin a purposeful commitment of troops to back a broadened U.N. mission involving armed relief corridors on land or in the air and protective cordons around besieged cities and, if the Serbs challenge these arrangements, a willingness to escalate our involvement and

penalties until they desist. We have run out of talking room. Unless the Serbs understand this, there is no credible deterrent. The military response must be not incremental and grudging but measured and deter-

The writer was United Nations high commissioner for refugees from 1965 to 1977. The article is reprinted from the New York

the basic law, which could be-

queath the mainland a far from

tame legislature in which a major-

ity of members were directly or

As Gov. Patten points out.

nowhere does the law state the

make-up of the functional consti-

tuencies or who should sit on the

Existing functional constituen-

cies have tiny electorates, ranging

from a few dozen to a few

thousand, and nearly all have picked conservative legislators

who oppose confronting China.

turned local assumptions by

creating nine new functional con-

stituencies which would give ev-

ery worker - almost half the six

million population - a second

Likewise, Gov. Patten prop-oses that the electoral college

should be made up of popularly-

elected local councillors, in Chi-

na's mind another back-door

and suddenly a majority 39 legis-

lators would be elected by the

ing an assertive and even rebel-

lious legislature at the handover.

route to direct elections.

But Gov. Patten has over-

electoral college in 1995.

indirectly elected.

LETTERS

Costly omissions

To the Editor:

It was interesting to read in the Jordan Times (April 12) of the concern of the Public Security Department over the increase in road accidents. One phrase in particular caught my attention: "...despite all efforts made by the department to reduce them (road accidents)." If "all efforts" have been made, then we, who drive the roads of the Kingdom, are in real danger. With due respect to the progress that has been made, there are some glaring inconsistencies and gaps that anyone can see:

While it is good to, once in a while, enforce the seat-belt law. this does nothing to stop drivers from roaring through stop signs, cutting in front of you or passing on blind corners. You are still going to get hit; the only question is how much you will be paying in damages to your car and your body. The traffic police seen to be quite keen on setting up radar

posts on highways — necessary, I suppose. But what about the thousands of residential streets where drivers tear around in flagrant disregard for laws? Maybe there are no laws there - have you ever seen a traffic policeman patrolling the neighbourhoods? There seems to be more concern that your car has a nice paint job for licensing than there is about the hordes of young men who get the keys to their fathers' shiny Mercedes and BMWs and create havoc on the streets.

There are many areas around town where a policeman is employed full-time with the benign task of giving out parking tickets. I have yet to see a policeman enforce any stop-sign violations. Stop-signs in this country mean virtually nothing - a waste of money unless they are taken seriously, and yet many of these intersections witness accidents week after

yment of traffic police to where th real problems are. Unless there are some new laws regarding speeding on residential streets, unless reckless driving is dealt with, until stop signs are taken seriously, we motorists will continue to drive our nicely painted cars and keep the doctors, hospitals and morgues busy.

Bob Robertson,

P.O. Box No. 4105,

Hypocrisy or sustainability?

To the Editor:

After reading Elizabeth Sobo's letter, "The West's arrogant hypocrisy", (Jordan Times, April 14, 1993), I thought I should add a few things.

If for no reason other than the critical water shortage in this area, one must support programmes related to population control. At a recent lecture, Dr. Munther Haddadin, the former head of the Jordan Valley Authority and presently one of Jordan's delegates at the multilateral peace talks, graphically explained that the present level of water resources in this region is adequate to support a population of five million people, where in actual fact 10 million persons are presently living. This means that twice as many people are living in this area than our current water resources can support!

Jordan has one of the highest birth rates in the world. That, plus additions to the existing population due to regional conflicts. has already strained our water resources to a nightmarish level. Without new sources or methods to increase our water supply, population control is not only necessary, it is imperative to assure future to the countries of this region.

It is very well for a delegation opposed to population control to agitate in their "mother" country, but quite another thing for such a group to export their extremist views when they are ignorant of

basic issues. I suggest that the next time Ms. Sobo and her group wish to disrupt U.N. population conferences, they should do their homework first. Perhaps then she and those like her would realise that instead of "devaluing" children and "getting rid of Arabs", these conferences are trying to insure that the population is sustainable within the limitations of the natural resources of the

Karen Asfour, P.O. Box 6367,

Local staff

To the Editor:

I refer to the Diary column written by Nermeen Murad in the April 1, 1993, edition of the Jordan Times. The writer, under the headline Rehauled, wrote about ITV

commercial "Jabri Chocolate - Tutu" and described the boy as a young Egyptian boy." The article also gave wrong information: JTV has commissioned the boy to participate in a locally produced musical comedy TV programme of 12 parts."

Even if it comes under the "April fools joke," I trust that you will write about the Jordanian boy, Yezen Zaytoon, mentioning the fact that he is the son of a respectful family, known to most

> Abdel Mubeen Zaytoon, Manager of Organisation Dept. Arab Bank Pic.,

Patten's H.K. reforms and why China hates them

By David Stamp Reuter

HONG KONG — Britain, which for 150 years ruled Hong Kong through an unelected elite. is finally pushing for significant democratic reforms — just four years before it hands the colony hack to China. To Governor Chris Patten,

they are modest proposals leaving Hong Kong far short of full-blooded democracy. To China they are a British trick to create havoc after 1997.

The proposals also represent a break with past colonial governments, which have long argued against democracy for Hong Kong on the grounds it would be divisive and would be opposed by China.

Since Gov. Patten proposed the reforms last October, Peking has waged a furious campaign to force him into submission.

After six months of deadlock, Sino-British talks on Hong Kong's future are due to start in Peking next week but China still appears determined to destroy

the Patten package. So what exactly are the changes which have enraged Peking?

From Gov. Patten's viewpoint. China should have little to worry about. As agreed with Peking, Hong Kong's government will remain "executive-led", he says, As agreed with Peking, only a third of the legislature will be directly elected in 1995.

In short, the Legislative Council will act only as a watchdog with limited powers, just as it

does now. Furthermore, both sides agree on the outline of the 1995 legislature, which is laid down in the basic law - Hong Kong's post-1997 constitution.

The 60-seat council will be made up of 20 directly-elected members, 10 chosen by an electoral college and 30 elected by "functional constituencies" professional groups such as lawyers, teachers and chambers of commerce.

But there the agreement ends.

Kong's political system, to raise ten's exploitation of grey areas in up the position of the Legislative Council, to gradually transform Hong Kong's executive-led system to a legislative-led one, to embroil the government and legislature in all manner of controversy." Foreign Minister Oian Qichen said in a recent interview.

Few local people demanded democracy until the 1980s when anxiety started to grow about whether the colony would keep its economic and social freedoms

We're not talking about some great leap towards some greater democracy. What we are talking about is putting in place for the 1995 elections, the last ones under British sovereignty, electoral arrangements which won't guarantee a rubber-stamp legislative council — Patten

"We're not talking about some great leap towards some greater democracy." Gov. Patten said

recently. "What we are talking about is putting in place for the 1995 elections, the last ones under British sovereignty, electoral arrangements which won't guarantee a rubber-stamp legislalive council."

China doesn't see it that way. Patten's intentions...are to carry out major changes in Hong after returning to China.

are crucial because, at least in theory, legislators will be voted in

In 1991, two years after the

Peking massacre of prodemocracy demonstrators, liberals took almost all the 18 seats up for election in Hong Kong's firstever direct polls. Pro-China candidates flopped. For Peking the 1995 elections

for four years - taking their terms well past the handover. The row centres on Gov. Pat-

Analysts expect Chinese negotiators will try to force Britain to drop these two proposals in particular at the talks in Peking. Add all his proposals together.

> Hong Kong people directly or indirectly, not the minority 20 China had expected.
>
> Bearing in mind Hong Kong voters' preference for prodemocracy liberals. China faces the alarming prospect of inherit-

South Africa faces explosive week after slaying

By David Tucker Reuter

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JOHANNESBURG - South Africa faces a critical and potenrially explosive week following the slaying of black activist Chris Hani, allegedly shot by a white

The African National Congress (ANC) said Tuesday it was doing all it could to prevent an all-out racial war.

"The country is on a knifeedge," said Peter Esterhuizen of the private African Institute for South Africa.

to this is included but to surely off. The government of the time when the constraint of the constrain "If we can get through the next week, everyone will breathe a sigh of relief," he told Reuters. The government called on the : ANC and other black opposition groups to exercise restraint in the wake of Saturday's murder of Mr.

Hani, general secretary of the South African Communist Party

Wednesday has been declared "the day of Hani," and the ANC has called for a mass work stayaway to allow millions of its supporters the chance to mourn Mr. Hani at services throughout the country.

Passions are running high among rank-and-file ANC members, particularly the restive youths who idolised Mr. Hani as a former guerrilla commander in the long struggle against the white rule.

But ANC leaders, including Nelson Mandela, have appealed for calm, saying Mr. Hani's death should not be allowed to disrupt the path from white rule to democracy. They say Mr. Hani himself was committed to negotiations

Palestinians remains open to

delegation with the Palestinians,

Syria, now the key Arab player

in the negotiations, has repeated-

ly committed itself to a compre-

hensive settlement involving all

In his telephone conversation,

Mr. Christopher discussed poss-

ibly delaying the resumption of

peace talks by five days until

Sources from two different de-

legations said Mr. Christopher

discussed the possibility to give

more time to resolve the crisis.

A senior Palestinian official

told Reuters earlier Saturday the

Palestinians wanted a written

pledge by Israel that it would

allow a quick return of the expel-

lees, an end to Israel's two-week

closure of the West Bank and

Gaza and other measures before

Palestinians agree to go to

Palestine Central Council, said

the Palestinian demand was dis-

cussed by the Arab foreign minis-

Israel to resume the 17-month-

old peace talks were not enough.

Faisal Al Husseini and Haidar

Abdul Shafi had asked the Un-

ited States to postpone the talks

because Palestinians were not

He said Palestinians wanted

copies of the Israeli written con-

cessions to be deposited with the

United States and Russia, the

co-sponsors of the peace talks.

He listed the demands as:

An Israeli commitment to halt

expulsions, to implement the

spirit of U.N. Resolution 799

calling for the return of the expel-

lees, and to give a timetable for

the quick return of the remaining

396 Palestinians from South

- Commitment to return a size-

able number of other Palestinians

expelled since 1967, to end the closure of the West Bank and

Gaza Strip, and to stop human rights violations in the occupied

- A pledge that Israel is commit-

ted to U.N. resolutions 242 and

338 as terms of reference for the

In Arab East Jerusalem, Mr.

Husseini officially called on the

United States to delay the ninth

He delivered a message in the

name of his delegation to the

U.S. council general there, Molly Williamson, Palestinian sources

In the message, the Palestinian delegation stressed that "neces-

sary conditions" had not been

met for a resumption of the talks

the Arabs to resume the peace

The United States Friday urged

State Department spokesman

Richard Boucher said Washing-

ton had not received a formal

request for a postponement but it

He said Palestinian delegates

Mr. Ra'fat said offers made by

Saleh Ra'fat, member of the

Washington.

satisfied.

territories.

said.

on April 20.

peace process.

negotiating session.

ters in Damascus.

April 25, delegates said.

the Arab parties.

has said it will not go alone.

Jordan, which form a joint

and would not have wished his death to ignite a race war. ANC activist Tokyo Sewale, a

close friend of Mr. Hani's, urged 800 blacks gathered near Boksburg magistrates' court, -- where Mr. Hani murder suspect Janusz Walus, a Polish immigrant, made a three-minute appearance on

Tuesday - not to vent their

anger on whites.

"It may have been the hand of a white maic that slaughtered him but it was the eyes of a white woman who helped us catch this bastard," said Mr. Sexwale, referring to a witness whose report

led to the arrest of Mr. Walus. "Make sure no-one among us can be pointed to and said he started a racial war," Mr. Sexwale said. Four whites have been killed by mobs since Mr. Hani's voke the people."

assassination on Saturday. Mr. Esterhuizen said that while senior black political leaders were calling for restraint, some middleranking activists were stirring up

emotions. "The challenge to the top leadership is whether they will be able to keep the rems on these lowerlevel leaders. It will also depend a lot of how Mr. Hani's funeral is going to be handled," he said. A date has still to be set for the funeral which the ANC wants to

be the biggest public mourning

ceremony to be held in South

ANC spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said he believed leaders would be able to keep a lid on the situation provided the whiteled security forces did not "pro-

"It's a question of political skill and our leadership has shown it has that skill," said Mr. Mamoepa.

"We are doing all we can to prevent an all-out racial war." Mr. Mandela made an unprecedented appeal for calm on national television within hours of Mr. Hani's assassination.

Political analysts said at the weekend Mr. Hani was probably the most popular leader among militant black youths, many of them unemployed and without hope of work, who have seen little benefit from the reform process initiated by President

F.W. de Klerk three years ago. "In a sense the goodwill is evaporating rapidly," said Cape Town University analyst Robert Schrire, referring to the initial euphoria when Mr. de Klerk

freed Mr. Mandela and legalised volatile... with all due respect to

Ministry of Law and Order spokesman Captain Craig Kotze said it was vital that opposition groups not try to make political

"The situation is extremely

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Mr. Hani, we cannot resurrect Mr. Mamoepa said the ANC him, the concern should be for was trying to channel the anger of the living. Everybody has a duty to dampen down the situation,

Capt. Kotze said. He appealed to blacks "not to provoke the forces of law and order."

Political analysts said they doubted the white right would further try to exacerbate the situation.

"You could say they got the first shot in," said one analyst referring to alleged assassin Walus's links to the right-wing Afrikaner Resistance Movement

(AWB). AWB leader Eugene Terre Blanche has publicly dissociated himself from the killing.

"We did not give any instructions to do such a deed. I condemned the deed the day that it happened," he said.

Arabs defer decision on peace talks

question.

(Continued from page 1)

to "force Israel to conform with U.N. Security Council resolutions and contribute to the creation of a climate likely to restart the negotiations."

Mr. Sharaa, commenting on the telephone call with Mr.

Christopher, said: "We exchanged views on international efforts to remove the obstacles ... the conversation was important and helped us all to crystallise a unified Arab position to resume the peace process and there each the act remove the obstacles blocking

This is the second time in three weeks that Arabs have failed to agree to resume the peace process on April 20 as proposed by the United States, the main sponsor of the 17-month-old peace process.

Asked what were the Palestinians specific concerns, Mr. Kaddoumi said:

"There is a siege of the Palestinian people. There are deportees. There is an understanding of the meaning of the peace pro-

"The Palestinian people feel the weight of these obstacles." Hanan Ashrawi, the Palestinian delegation's spokeswoman, told a news conference in the United States Friday that the Palestinians would urge their Arab partners to join them in calling for a postponment.

Muslim fundamentalist léader Ibrahim Ghosheh, a Hamas spokesman based in Amman, warned Saturday of "deeper divisions" in the Israeli-occupied territories if the Palestinians attended the talks. He said his movement has a pledge from the PLO to quit the Middle East

peace process. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's spokesman Gad Ben-Ari said Israel had "not received any official word" about the delay asked by Arab foreign ministers. In Bahrain, the Al Ayam daily

Saturday quoted Nabil Shaath, a senior adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, as saying the Palestinians sought the postponement because Mr. Rabin has not done enough "to convince the Palestinians to return to the nego-

tiating table." The Americans, seeking to persuade the Arabs back to the negotiating table, have said that the Israelis will offer unspecified "more flexible positions" once the talks have resumed.

The PLO is demanding a clear Israeli acceptance of U.N. Security Council Resolution 799, which calls for repatriation of the expellees in South Lebanon.

The PLO also wants an Israeli commitment to stop expulsions and halt human rights abuses in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Middle East analyst Charles Snow, writing in the respected Middle East Economic Survey." noted that the Americans are asking the Palestinians "to take it on trust" that Israel is prepared to make concessions once the

talks resume. "But trust is a commodity which is understandably in short supply between Palestinians and Israelis, and the American assurances of unspecified Israeli ges-tures after the Arabs agree to resume the talks are all the less credible in Arab eyes for Washington's inability to produce any evidence of Israeli flexibility

beforehand," Mr. Snow said. Whether the Syrians, Jordanians and Lebanese contemplate the possibility of eventually going to the peace talks without the

Ozal dies of heart attack

(Continued from page 1)

tried to assassinate him at a party congress in June 1988 when he was prime minister, but he escaped with a wounded hand. Mr. Ozal's spokesman Kaya Toperi said the president's illness may have been brought on by

fatigue.
Under the constitution, Parliament Speaker Husamettin Cindoruk will act as president until the 450-member parliament finds the two-thirds majority needed to

elect a new one. The Parliament cannot vote before a 10-day nomination period but must elect a new president within 20 days after that. "Ozal was the pioneer of many

continued," said Erhan Karadayi, a banker, recalling the liberal reforms Mr. Ozal pushed through as prime minister in the 1980s.

Ulvi Demiroglu, another banker, said the president should be remembered for the impact his reforms had made on people's lives. "We can never disregard what Ozal has achieved."

Ankara taxi-driver Osman Merdol said Mr. Ozal had clung to power too long. "He was like (former heavyweight boxing champion) Muhammad Ali. He should have quit when he was at the top.

Tayfun Aksu, a grocer, said Mr. Ozal's stature would become clear only in death. "We Turks only understand the value of a man when he dies. His value will

developments in the Turkish economy. What he started should be be understood from now on."

(Continued from page 1)

2 guilty, 2 acquitted in beating case

\$250,000 in fines. Sentencing was set for Aug. 4. Saturday's proceedings took

just 15 minutes. Mr. Koon, who maintained a stoic attitude throughout the trial, sat staring straight ahead as his conviction was announced, Mr. Powell went ashen-faced but did not move when his verdict

The jurors were solemn. Some sat with heads down as the verilidicts were read. But they answered strongly "Yes" when the clerk asked if the verdicts

were correct. City councilman Nate Holden, decisions by Mr. Bradley and who is black and attended the other officials not to seek reelecthe verdi shrugged later when asked about them. "It means you have a little dignity left," he said.

The trail's finale culminated a wrenching test for the American judicial system. Many feared last year's riots

had so tainted public opinion that a fair jury could not be picked.

up to 10 years in prison and Mayor Tom Bradley denounced the state acquittals, and then-President George Bush encour-

aged U.S. Justice Department Saturday's ruling also was a verdict on the value of videotaped evidence in a criminal case - whether the camera's eye is as convincing as witness testi-

And it was a milestone in a two-year ordeal for the nation's second-largest city. In addition to the riots, the beating led to reform of the Los Angeles Police Department and the retirement of its chief, and contributed to

In state court, the policemen were charged with assault, and assault under colour of authority. In the federal trial, the officers faced the more complex charge of violating Mr. King's civil rights.

Federal prosecutors had to show bad intent on the defendants' parts.

Closure of occupied lands 'irreversible'

(Continued from page 1)

Lebanon in December. Wives and children of the Palestinian expellees held a sit-in on Saturday outside the home of the chief Palestinian delegate to the Middle East peace talks, Palestinians said.

They said 75 women, accompanied by 30 children, sat for five hours in front of the home of Haidar Abdul Shafi in Gaza City in the occupied Gaza Strip.

They chanted "No peace until the deportees return" and carried banners protesting Palestinian

participation in the peace talks. Children carried banners aying. "Daddy, daddy, come back, we're waiting for you on the borders."

The protestors dispersed after Dr. Abdul Shafi's son, Khalid, told them his father would not be attending the next round of talks. Dr. Abdul Shafi said Friday the Palestinians should not attend the

next round of talks because Israel had failed to meet the Palestinians' minimum demands. Israeli soldiers Friday shot and wounded 28 Palestinians, two of them seriously, during clashes in

the occupied Gaza Strip, Palesti-

nian sources said.

The clashes erupted during demonstrations to mark the fifth anniversary of the death of Palestine Liberation Organisation official Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad). The worst fighting occurred in Gaza City, where troops opened ire several times on vouth throwing stones, the sources said.

Palestinian leaders had called on residents of the Gaza Strip to demonstrate and strike to mark Abu Jihad's assassination in Tunis at the hands of an Israeli commando unit. Most traders supported the strike call.

black opposition groups.

blacks into public outpourings of grief rather than revenge attacks

capital out of Mr. Hani's killing.

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wants the talks to resume April 20 and was optimistic they would.
"It's our firm conviction that the needs and concerns of all the parties, especially those of the Palestinians, can be addressed most effectively at the negotiating table," he said.

Mr. Boucher urged the Arab ministers meeting in Damascus to approve participation in the talks, saying: "We believe that the time to make that decision is now. We think that too much time has already been lost since the last round in December."



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Players of French team Limoges carry their coach Bozidar Maljkovic as they jubilate after winning the European Basketball Championship

France goes wild over basketball victory

PARIS (AP) - Premier Edouard airport when the victorious squad Balladur saluted the CSP returned, captain Richard Limoges basketball team Friday Vacoury raised the trophy over as France savored the team's his head to wild chants of "Li-

neton of Italy in a come-frombehind 59-55 triumph in Athens,

It marked the first time that a French club in any major profestop European inter-champion

Let's hope that it opens the way for new French success in other sports, perhaps soon," Balladur said in a congratulatory

telegram. Celebrations in the central, French city of 133,000 went on into the wee hours, with weeping and cheering fans swilling cham-pagne, tossing firecrackers and

mobbing the streets.

Some 3,000 mobbed the small

hair-raising victory to capture the European Champions cup.
Limoges defeated Treviso Befront pages of the sports daily L'equipe, which bannered the headline "day of glory," as well as staid newspapers like the con-

servative daily Le Figaro. The Italian press took defeat sional sport won the discipline's badly. While stressing the mistake made by Treviso and star player Toni Kukoc, the daily Gazzetta Dello Sport criticised

Limoges, gridlock defence.
"It was not basketball," huffed Gazzetta. "It was like wrestling. Only knives were not used."

Limoges is the fourth club to win all three of basketball's European cups. It won the Cupwin-ner's Cup in 1988 and the Cup Korac — similar, to the UEFA Cup in soccer — in 1982 and 1983.

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

American Automotive Show in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) - The Amman International Motor Show and the Jordanian Dealers of American Automobiles, in cooperation with the American Embassy, will hold the American Automotive show, the first automotive show ever to be held in Jordan that focusses solely on American vehicles, parts and accessories. The show, opens Tuesday, April 20 and continues through Saturday, April 24, at the Amman International Motor Show on the road to the airport. It will feature new 1993 cars, pickups and vans from Ford, General Motors and Jeep. Part of the extensive collection of classic and new American cars and motorcycles from the Royal Garages will also be on display.

Manchester city fined £50,000 for crowd trouble

LONDON (R) — English premier league Manchester City were fined £50,000 sterling (\$76,000) by the Football Association Friday following the pitch invasion during their home F. A. Cup tie against Tottenham last month. An F. A. commission also ordered club to play one match behind closed doors — a punishment suspended until the end of the 1993-94 season. City were charged with failing to control their crowd. Some 300 of their fans swarmed on to the pitch three minutes before the end of the quarter-final, won 4-2 by Tottenham.

Qatar trounce Singapore 4-1

DOHA (AP) — Qatar surged back to the top of Asia Group C Friday, coming from a goal behind and scoring three times in the last seven minutes to beat Singapore 4-1. The half-time score was 0-0. In a second game, Vietnam defeated Indonesia 1-0. The Qatar victory puts the team level with North Korea on points but ahead on goal difference. Qatar and North Korea play the last game of this group Sunday.

Schwantz in Japanese hat-trick

SUZUKA (AFP) - Kevin Schwantz pulled a pole position hat-trick here Saturday as he clipped his own overnight course in the second qualifying session for the Japanese Motorcycling Grand Prix. The 28-year-old texan clocked 2min 02.239sec on his Suzuki, 0.801sec faster than his record-breaking first practice run, to clinch his third pole position in as many Grands Prix this season. Honda rider Shinichi Itoh of Japan posted the second fastest time of 2:10.164 with one minute left in the hour-long session. Reigining world champion Wayne Rainey, who denied Schwantz a second straight win in Malaysia two weeks ago, was pushed back to third spot with a time of 2:10.229 on his Yamaha.

Colombian hits out at AIDS claims

BOGOTA (AFP) — Ruben "Huracan" Palacios, stripped of his World Boxing Organisation featherweight title because he allegedly failed an AIDStest, claims he was set up by the British Boxing Authorities. "They have never forgiven me since I beat Colin McMillan for the title in London last September," he said when he flew in here from London. "It's a fix," he added. He claimed AIDS tests in Colombia had all been negative.

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South West North East 2 ♥ 3 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Five of 🔾 The prize for the best defense at the Philip Morris European Mixed Championship was won by Sylvia Terraneo of Austria for her fine effort on this hand. A disastrous opening lead seemed to have given the contract to declarer, but a thoughtful play allowed West to

North-South bid to a game which, had the queen of hearts been the queen of diamonds, would have been

a good one, depending on little more than a 3-2 trump break. As it was declarer was in danger of losing three trump tricks plus one in a

minor suit. Terraneo, sitting West, found the unfortunate lead of a low diamond. At other tables, after a similar lead. declarer led a trump from hand. East captured West's ten with the jack, and there was no way for West to gain the lead to give partner a

diamond ruff.
At this table, too, declarer led a trump at the second trick, but West inserted the queen, executing a "Crocodile Coup" to swallow partner's jack. Now West was able to lead another diamond. East dutifully ruffed with the ace, and West still had to get two trump tricks for down

The "Crocodile Coup" is not an unusual beast. More often, however, it occurs in a side suit. To see an example in the trump suit is a rarity. so Terraneo is a worthy winner of the defensive award.

McColgan- | Miller Ondieki feud dominates London Marathon

LONDON (AFP) — The ongoing feud between Britain's Liz McColgan and Australia Lisa Ondieki will ensure that for once the women's race will attract more attention than the men's in

Sunday's London Marathon. The build-up has been dominated by the so-called "cat fight" between the two arch rivals, with McColgan writing off Ondieki's chances and the Australian branding the world 10,000m

champion as arrogant.

The Scot asid: "She's a very competitive athlete, but I don't feel she's a major threat. I'm confident I can beat her."

McColgan, already guaranteed an estimated 150,000 pounds just for lining up in her first marathon in Britain, has also angered the double Commonwealth champion by saying that she would not be surprised to touch the two hours 20 minutes barried and so break Ingrid Kristiansen's world record.

That feat would net her an extra 170,000 pounds in prize money and bonuses, which would represent a haul of 320,000 pounds — the most lucrative day's work on the roads in his-

But Ondieki warned: "She talks about breaking records, but I'm just here to race. If she runs the times she says she will, okay. but if she doesn't, she might look quite foolish."

However, McColgan does have a psychological edge over the 1988 Olympic silver medallist, having beaten her in two previous major road race encounters the New York Marathon in 1991 and last year's Tokyo halfmarathon.

The men's entry is headed by Diibouti's Ahmad Salah, the second fastest man in history

captures gymnastics world title

BIRMINGHAM (AP) - Shannon Miller watched from the stands as rival gymnast Gina Go-gean marched on to the mat aiming to beat her to the world

The American had completed. all her routines in the all-round final and Gogean, a Romanian, was the last competitor capable of catching Miller's score.

Gogean needed to score 9,808 for gold and had a sellout crowd of some 10,000 fans clapping in time with the Scottish reels she had chosen for her routine. She strung together a series of handsprings, twists and flips, hardly making a mistake, and she

loudest cheers of the night. Then all eyes strained on the scoreboard. It flashed up 9.800 and Miller, 16, had won her first world title

by 0.007 of a point. Winner of two silvers and three bronze medals at last year's Olympics and two second places at the World Championships at Indianapolis two years ago, Mil-

ler at last took a gold. Yet she was low key about her achievement.

"It was a great experience coming here and I worked hard for the competition and I'm glad I did as well as I could," she said. "It's not as big as the Olympics but I'm glad I did well."

Miller's worst performance in Friday's all-round final was on the beam, one of her strongest disciplines.

After top scoring with 9.825 on the uneven bars, she took two quick back steps to steady herself on landing from the beam and slipped to 9.625 that compared with her 9.887 in qualifying and she dropped from second to fifth overall.

She made up ground with 9.825 on floor exercises and then came her best performance of the night.

"The second vault was the best



Belarus gymnast Vitaly Scherbo on his way to a gold medal while performing on the pommels in all around individual competition at the World Gymnastics Championships (AFP photo)

gained a score of 9.778 and the the vaults. second 9.800. It was enough to win her the title.

Her total was 39.062 points while Gogean scored 39.055.

"I thought it was very hard to have a score good enough to come first," the Romanian said. Tatiana Lyssenko of Ukraine

edged American gymnast Dominique Dawes for the bronze. Lyssenko scored 39.011 and Dawes, 16, from Silver Spring, MD., had

Dawes stumbled twice on landthing I did," Miller said. Her first ing while in a winning position on

Grigori Misiutin of Ukraine upstaged Olympics star Vitali Scherbo to win the men's floor exercise gold medal Saturday at the World Gymnastics Championships.

Misiutin scored 9.400 points with the last routine of the eight finalists to capture the gold med-

Scherbo, a Belarussian who won six gold medals at the Barcelona Olympics, placed equal second with Britain's Neil Thomas, who both scored 9.350,

Arsenal,

LONDON (AFP) — Arsenal and Sheffield Wednesday open their

In an intriguing clash of cultures, Wednesday will bring style and sophistication to Wembley

Trevor Francis promised: "What-ever happens, we're going to

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY APRIL 18, 1993

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A great day to get busy and organise would life in such a fortile to the day but later look to your own great day to get busy and organise your life in such a fashion that you will be able to achieve a great deal that is practical. Avoid a temptation toward wishful thinking and

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You find a new approach at some consistent goal that has been yours early brings fine results; then carry through without making further

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Your family is receptive in the daytime to what you most desire but later on some tensions can arise unless you make a point to be

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21), Communicate with outside allies to get their standpoints in the morn-ing while afterwards you find it difficult to put your views across easily. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) You see how to gain more benefits from whatever tasks you are doing or plan to do, then drop the financial part and do the actual

LEO: (July 22 August 21) This is the morning to go after what you want that has long been anticipated by you and bring to yourself while tonight be muted in personal re-

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You see ways to do what will increase the harmony beneath your

four ordinary words.

DORBO

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By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

problems.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You can make real progress towards attaining your long range objectives after breakfast, then carry through with duties required until they workout well. problems.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Get out into whatever public activity awaits your arten-tion after which it is advisable you use care in anything of community civi nature.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Your ability to tune in on what is best for you is excellent in the morning but later use your mature judgment in what-

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Give your attachment a pat on the back or words of encouragement in the morning and later show your devotion in some helpful overt act.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A generous outsider can be helpful to you early but later it will be necessary that you rely more upon your own judgment and re-

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) More attractiveness placed in your environment early makes it easier for you to operate harmoniously there so get busy do so right away.



'Next time you get mad at each other inhale this balloon. It's hard to argue with a Munchkin voice."

П

WHAT THE BALD-

HEADED FRIENDS

FOUND IT DIFFICULT

TO DO.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)

Print answer here:

Jumbles: NOISE AIDED BURIAL CRABBY

Answer: Outlaw groups that always wind up stretching their luck---"ROBBER BANDS"

Courier,Sampras clash in final Wednesday HONG KONG (Agencies) — The 22-year-old Floridan was World number two Jim Courier completely at ease as he rushed to has a chance to avenge himself in a 3-0 lead by breaking Chang's petitive, with Fendick often beat-

the final of the Hong Kong Open against Pete Sampras, the man who stole his number one posi-

tion two weeks ago. The clash of the two Americans should provide a dream final for contented Courier. the \$300,000 event here Sunday. In the semif-finals Saturday,

defending champion Courier easily defeated fellow-American Michael Chang 6-2, 6-3, while Sampras struggled to beat Amos Mansdorf 2-6, 7-6, 7-6. Before arriving in Hong Kong, top seeded Courier had a miser-

able fortnight in Japan, losing in the semi-finals in Osaka and in the third round in Tokyo.

He started the week here complaining of tiredness, but he was n good spirits after taking 93 minutes to overwhelm local favourite Chang.

Peanuts

first service game, and never looked in danger.

"I'm looking forward to tomorrow. I'm playing much better than I did in Japan," said a Sampras, the second seed here,

was given a big scare by Man-sdorf, ranked 30, before prevailing in three sets. After an interruption for rain, Sampras found the winners under pressure to take the second two

sets, both on a tie-break. Basuki overwhelms Fendick: Indonesia's Yayuk Basuki scorched past top seed Patty Fendick to reach the final of the Women's Open Saturday.

The eighth seeded Basuki, who lost to Fendick in Tokyo last week, triumphed 6-4 6-0 with a magnificent performance played

ing Basuki with the sheer power of her shots, while Basuki had the stronger serve and volley game.

But the Indonesian sneaked the first set as Fendick doublefaulted under pressure, and then pulled away to take the second set in some style.

"Everything in my game has been working so good his week that I felt no pressure playing her." Basuki said afterwards. "I learned a lot from losing to her in Tokyo and played really smart. I didn't hit hard but placed

the ball well." Basuki will play unseeded Marianne Werdel in Sunday's final after the American defeated fourth-seeded Stephanie Rottier of the Netherlands 6-2 6-1 in a surprisingly one-seeded encoun-

bid for **English** cup history

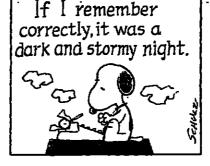
campaigns Sunday to become the first club to capture both English cups in the same season when they meet in the League Cup

through ex-England winger Chris Waddle, Eire playmaker John Sheridan and American showman John Harhes. Wednesday player-manager

Wembley to play our football.

It was a dark YOU BE SO and stormy night. SURE?





Andy Capp



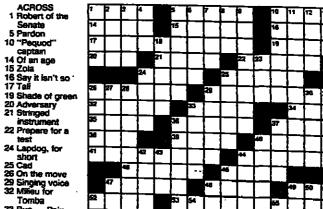




Mutt'n'Jeff



THE Daily Crossword by Bernice Gordon



33 Rue — Paix 34 Watch holder 35 Chinook salmo 36 Get out of bed 37 Simpleton 38 Simon's couple

serion's coup were 39 — Lisa 40 French river 41 Extending 44 Squandered 45 Family circle member 46 Bireme necessities 47 Ghana's capital 48 — boy! 49 Author Akins 52 Kind at code over) 12 Artist Warhol (incidentally) 18 Sorbonne

52 kind of code 53 in a tight grip 56 king, e.g. 57 Debussy opus 58 QED word 59 "Bonne Free" lioness 60 Atlanta

23 Skater Babik 24 Calumet DOWN 1 inattentive 2 Yes — (choice

25 Life ratt 26 Mary of the screen 27 Bonnie's pal 28 Ballerinas, at times 29 Person 30 Nary a soul 31 Fell back

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

47 Inland sea 48 Airt pref. 49 Goose egg 50 Norwegian king 51 lt. city 52 Expert 54 Sweet notate

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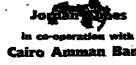
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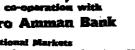
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Financial





Сштевсу	Nav York Close Dain 15/4/1993	Neso York Clase • Dute 16/4/199
Sterling Pound*	1.5470	1.5250
Deutsche Mark	1.6060	1.6175
Swiss Franc	1.4667	1.4825
French Franc	5.4275	5.4645
Japanese Yen	113.12	.112.20
Estropean Curreny Unit	1.2175	1.2050

om Opening @ 8:00 a.m. GMT

Carrency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	3.06	3.12	3.18	3.43
Sterling Pound	5.90	5.94	5.94	6.00
Deutsche Mark	8.13	7.75	7.50	6.81
Swiss Franc	5.18	4.93	4.73	4.37
French Franc	9.20	8.75	8.37	7.87
Japanese Yen	3.18	3_18	3.25.	3.31
European Currency Unit	9.00	8.93	8.50	7.81

Precious M				Date: 16	/4/1993
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm²	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	338.45	6.60	Säver	3.93	.090

			17/4/1993
Сигтевсу		Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar		0.6870	0.6890
Sterling Pound		1.0467	1.0519
Deutsche Mark		0.4245	0.4266
Swiss Franc	ì	0.4629	0.4652
French Franc		0.1256	0.1262
Japanese Yen*		0_6120	0.6151
Dutch Guilder		0.3777	0.3796
Swedish Krons		0.0911	0.0916
Italian Lira*		0.0445	0.0447
Belgian Franc		0.02062	0.02072
Dec 100			

ther Currencies	Date: 17/4/19		
Currency	Bid	Offer	
Bahraini Disar	.1.8040	1.8420	
Lebanese Lira	0.0370	0.0420	
Saudi Riyal	0.1825	0.1843	
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2350	2.2800	
Qatari Riyal	0.1863	0.1882	
Egyptian Pound	0.1950	0.2380	
Omani Riyal	1,7580	1.7820	
UAE Dirham	0.1863	0.1882	
Greek Drackma*	0.3130	0.3209	
Cyprict Pound	1,4100	1.4340	

Index	7/4/1993 Close	14/4/1993	Cless
Ail-Share	194.96	192.95	
Banking Sector	134.80	134.19	
Insurance Sector	214.47	212.12	
Industry Sector	278.45	274.91	
Services Sector	257.31	251.12	_

Yemen pins hopes on higher revenues from oil, investment

AMMAN (R) - Yemen's economy will begin to improve next year as increased oil revenues offset the strain caused by over a million workers forced to return home after the Gulf crisis, Labour Minister Abdul Rahman Dhaiban said.

"Our expectations are that by 1994-995 the economy will improve as oil production revenue grows with further exploration and new investment starting now begins to show results," he told Reuters in an interview.

He said however it would take years to recover completely from the economic shock of the return of 700,000 workers and their famnilies, who had provided about \$2. billion in remittances before Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Most of the workers were shop-

keepers driven out of Saudi Arabia because of Yemen's pro-Iraq stance during the crisis.

Mr. Dhaiban said their return was expected to widen a 1991-1992 budget deficit of 18 billion riyals (\$1.2 billion) to over 20 billion riyals (\$1.6 billion) in

1992-93. But he said Yemen was pinning its hopes mainly on higher oil revenues and investment to absorb the long-term effects of

the sudden influx of mostly unskilled workers with few savings. He said total oil production was expected to rise to 320,000 barrels per day (b/d) by September from a current 200,000 b/d as

French flour

CAIRO (R) - French flour ex-

porters have aggressively posi-

tioned themselves in Egypt over

the past few months and hope this

year to sell "much more" than last year's 320,000 tonnes, an

Jean Manuel Leveque, a repre-

sentative of the French exporting syndicate SYMEX, told Reuters French sales had reached 150,000

tonnes so far this year, subsidised

at an average rate of about 93

ECUs (\$113) a tonne by the

in 1991, about nine per cent of

the world market worth about

\$100 million at current market

values. Figures for 1992 were not

French exporters, who reentered

the Egyptian market in

force late last year after a trough

of several years, are hoping for a

bigger share of a larger flour

The government allowed the

private sector to start importing

flour in December and has been

using its strong cash position to

diversify away from traditional reliance on U.S. wheat and flour.

mounted a public relations cam-

paign to convince government

buyers and bakers to import flour

rather than mill imported wheat.

Cinema

Susan Sarandon

& James Spader... in

WHITE PALACE

Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

in a play entitled:

French exporters have also

European Community.

available.

exporters

see Egypt

sales up

exporter has said.

a new pipeline project in the Masila field in Haeramawt province was completed.

Mr. Dhaiban estimated the current jobless rate at about 27 per cent. He said more than 24 foreigo oil companies were engaged exploration and production in Yemen and the rapidly expanding oil sector was the most promising area for employment.

He did not give a comparative

A recent decision to establish the port of Aden as a free zone along with investment policies now in place should create more job opportunities over the next few years, he added. Mr. Dhaiban said the govern-

ment had so far spent around \$33 million of a \$60 million World Bank-funded project to encourage investment in industries including agriculture and fisheries. He said the government had taken a series of measures to

creat iobs, including revising investment laws last year to make it easier to establish businesses in "So far over 200 projects with a

total capital of 20 billion Yemeni riyals (\$1.6 billion) have been set up, some of it from (other) Arab and foreign investors," he said. But he said hardship among the

returnees existed two years after the Gulf war, with about 100,000 of them still living in tents mainly in the Hadaydah region near the

WASHINGTON (R) — President Bill Clinton Friday express-

ed deep concern to Japanese

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa

about "inadequate" U.S. access

to Japanese markets and called

for a "rebalancing of our rela-

blunt in calling for a "new part-

nership" to help reduce the \$49

billion trade surplus Japan enjoys

"I stressed to the prime minis-

ter that I'm particularly con-

cerned about Japan's growing

global current account and trade

surpluses and deeply concerned

about the inadequate market ac-

tot American nims, pro

and investors in Japan," Mr.

Clinton said at a news conference

"The simple fact is that it is

harder to sell in Japan's market

than in ours. America is accept-

ing the challenge of change and

so too must Japan," he pointed

It was Clinton's first meeting

with Mr. Miyazawa since he be-

came president three months ago

and ushered in a tougher

approach to U.S.-Japanese rela-

tions than that of former Presi-

of our relationship in this new era

requires an elevated attention to

our economic relations that must

begin with an honest appraisal of

each country and our mutual Japanese official said.

Tel.: 634144

Tel.: 675571

"I stressed that the rebalancing

dent George Bush.

PHILADELPHIA

Nabil Al Mashini Theatre

Today the Nabil Mashini Theatre hosts

Al Fawanis Troupe acting

Death of Taybeh

By: Suheir Fahd, Mohammad Al Qabba-

ni, Amer Al Khafash

with the United States.

Mr. Clinton was unusually

tionship.

Clinton gives

Miyazawa blunt

message on trade

Kuwait puts brakes | AMF chief sees on consumer loans

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's cen- lapse of an unofficial stock martral bank said Saturday it had ket. slammed the brakes on growing commercial bank consumer lending to avoid damage to the eco-

Governor Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah listed seven previously unannounced curbs he imposed in March including one forbidding any bank's consumer lending to exceed 10 per cent of its private sector deposits.

Sheikh Salem, in a statement replying to questions from Reuters, gave no explanation for the curbs, which apply to consumer loans to individuals that are repaid monthly.

But a central bank official, who would not be named, said the bank was concerned that the 'sheer amount of consumer lending was building to a point where it was affecting the economy."
"The bank decided to slam the brakes on the commercial banks'

capacity to build up consumer debt," he added. Most consumer loans in Kuwait are for personal consumption goods such as cars and furniture. Latest central bank figures show personal consumer lending

by the banks rose in two months to November by 13 million dinars (\$400 million) to 423 million (\$1.39 billion). Consumer loans have been one

of the most profitable areas of a stagnant banking sector since the liberation from Iraqi occupation two years ago, with the banks hamstrung by \$20 billion in bad debts mostly from the 1982 col-

responsibilities," Mr. Clinton

Mr. Miyazawa said he agreed

on the need for "continuing

But he expressed "serious con-

cern" over some trends in the

increasing calls for protectionism.

our economic prosperity is found-

ed on our unique economic inter-

dependence. We must nurture

this relationship with a coopera-

tive spirit," he said, adding that

this "cannot be realised by man-

Mr. Clinton and Mr. Miyazawa

said they had agreed to develop a

lateral trade problems, but differ-

"In terms of how you get those

results, there are still things to be

hashed out and differences. But I

consider that to be a significant

move forward, that we at least

have agreed on the conceptual

framework in which we will deal

with these problems," Mr. Clin-

ton told reporters after meeting

Speaking at a joint news con-

ference, both men said they

hoped to have a framework for

talks in place within three

"How to develop the new

framework or which sectors to be

included will be discussed on the

working level from now on," a

with Mr. Miyazawa.

months

Cinema

ences remained on its form.

aged trade."

"I stressed to the president that

United States — a reference to

effors to increase market access.

Commercial banks currently charge consumer loans at around 12.5 per cent, a healthy spread set

against the 8.5 per cent they pay

for funds from the central bank of each other. A commercial bank economist said he believed the curbs would merely fuel lending by nonbanking institutions such as specialist car loan companies and

The economist, who declined to be identified, said that with the government set to cut overall spending, consumer loans remained an important catalyst for economic activity.

other credit firms outside central

bank control.

Sheikh Salem said in his statement the aggregate total of any bank's consumer loans would be limited to 10 per cent of its private sector deposits as represented by current accounts, call deposits, savings and time deposit

The customer would have to submit documents to satisfy the bank the loan had been used for the purpose specified and would have to declare to the lending bank all his other outstanding financial obligations.

Each repayment instalment should not exceed 25 per cent of the customer's monthly salary. Consumers may obtain more

than one loan provided total re-payment instalments do not exceed 50 per cent of the borrower's monthly salary.

Asian gold

set up a gold exchange and refinery in the hope of marketing gold from the Central Asian republics of the former Soviet Union, a senior Turkish government official has said.

Turkey plans to refine and sell the gold produced in the Central Asian republics to world markets," State Minister Tansu Ciller told a meeting in Istanbul.

Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are rich in gold, oil and other minerals.

Ms. Ciller said the move was part of plan to make Istanbul a regional gold trading centre and that the republics had shown interest in the idea. A gold exchange, she said,

would be set up in the coming days with its headquarters in a traditional site, possibly the famed Istanbul covered bazaar.

She said Turkey expected to earn \$4 billion annually from international gold trade once the

refinery was established. A group of Istanbul jewellers announced plans earlier this year to set up a gold refinery to process up to 100 tonnes a year.

Turkey aims to market Central

ISTANBUL (R) - Turkey is to

"By setting up a gold refinery and gold exchange in Istanbul,

primarily from the former Soviet Union.

Tel.: 677420

Tel.: 699238

signs of Arab economic recovery

DAMASCUS (R) — A leading Arab economist expressed hopes Friday for a better economic performance in the Arab World in

Osama Jaffar Al Fageh. director-general of the Arab Monetary Fund (AMF), told Reuters signs of recovery started last year, after the Gulf crisis, which he said cost Arabs more than \$670 billion.

"Most of the money spent on the Gulf war was withdrawn from assets which Arabs had been counting on to help improve their economies," Mr. Faqeh said.

Gulf states, especially Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, paid most of the costs of a U.S.-led operation to drive Iraqi forces from Kuwait in 1991.

The AMF chief said the recovery was seen in a decline in inflation rates and balance of payments deficits.

He said many Arab states had started to implement economic reforms and were keen to improve cooperation to counter

Western economic blocs. But he warned that Arab imports were growing faster than exports and that terms of trade were changing in favour of the West and against oil producers.

Revival and reform were most evident in the Gulf oil producing states, but Morocco and Tunisia had "restored their internal and external financial balance and increased their economic productivity," the AMF chief said.

He said Egypt and Jordan had also improved their economies by

Mr. Faqeh said protectionist policies in the West and the creat tion of the new cartels posed a real threat to Arab states, which would be left uncompetitive if world markets.

Speaking about activities of his fund, Mr. Faqeh said loans by the AMF from the start of operations in 1978 until the end of 1992 totalled 580 million accounting dinars (\$2.4 billion).

He said the AMF had amended its lending policies to enable it to engage in other activities and handle the investment of some

Arab assets. This allowed the bank to handle \$636 million in 1992 in favour of several Arab monetary institutions and other specialised agencies, he said.

But Mr. Fageh said a problem of arrears facing the fund had severely affected the AMF's acti-

"The arrears problem is a big obstacle to the fund's ability to rally its resources for lending," be

"Total arrears including interest to the end of March have increased to around 47 per cent of the fund's resources," he said. Iraq, Sudan and Somalia were

suspended last April, giving them two years to pay up or loose their membership. The Kuwait-based Arab Fund

for Economic and Social Development decided at its meeting in Damascus Thursday to suspend the same three states for the

Gulf Arab states urged to build magnesium plant

DUBAI (R) - The six Gulf such as cans, in furnaces and in Arab states have been urged by their own industrial consultancy to set up a magnesium plant to meet growing regional demand. United Arab Emirates (UAE) newspapers have reported.

A feasibility study by the Qatar-based Gulf Organisation Industrial Consulting (GOIC) suggested Saudi Arabia with its low energy costs as the most suitable site for a 10,000 tonnes per year capacity plant, the news-

metal used in aluminium alloys

the automobile industry. The GOIC, an offshoot of the

Gulf Cooperation Council which groups Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar. Oman and the United Arab Emirates, said it would cost \$2,880 to produce a tonne of magnesium locally compared with a world price of about \$3,400.

The study, circulated to GCC governments, suggested Qatarand Oman as alternative sites for Magnesium is a strong, light they could match low Saudi energy costs.

Rabat expects to collect \$1.33b from privatisation

RABAT (R) - Morocco hopes Casablanca Stock Exchange or to get up to 12 billion dirhams (\$1.33 billion) from the sale of 112 companies in a privatisation programme, the commerce minister has said.

Moulay Zine Zahidi, minister of commerce, industry and privatisation, said the government would use the revenue for health. education, housing and public works sectors.

Mr. Zahidi said the state's stake in these groups would be disposed of in various ways. There is no hide-bound rule, no rigid formula.

Mr. Zahidi told a news conference nearly all sales were open to foreign and domestic investors and would be transacted by bid, sale by direct contract or on the NEW

WORLD

combinations of several options.

ORDER! Face it?

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Amra Hotel Shops. 6th Circle. Amman

Z.W.A. Aviation and International Trading Import and export air freight movement.

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RANDA BEROUTI

Watercolours

at

ROMERO

April 19 - May 15

Spring Fever U.S.A. Shows: 12:30, 30:15, 4:45, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 Tei.: 625155

CONCORD

Clint Eastwood - in

UNFORGIVEN

Shows: 6, 8:15, 10:30

CURLE SUE

Shows: 12:30, 3:15

PLAZA

AHLAN THEATRE

Welcome Parliament and Budget On Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9:00 p.m.

at 5 p.m. and 9 p.m.

Nabil & Hisham's

Welcome New World Order On Thursday

& on Friday at 9:00 p.m. Please make advance reservation

U.N.: Serbs, Muslims locked in heavy fighting near Srebrenica

Advancing Serb forces and Muslim defenders are tocked in heavy fighting near the besieged Bosnian town of Srebrenica which has come under heavy shelling. the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said Saturday.

"U.N. staff on the ground have reported heavy fighting and small arms fire to the east and southeast. About one to two kilometres from the centre of Srebrenica." UNHCR spokeswoman Sylvana Foa told Reuters. There is also heavy shelling of the town and the staff feel the Serbs are on the offensive."

Ms. Foa said a U.N. military observers' post in Srebrenica. which is housed in a post office. had been hit by an artillery shell, but there were no casualties.

A UNHCR aid convoy heading for Srebrenica has turned back because of reports of heavy shelling there.

An amateur radio operator in Srebrenica told reporters in Saraievo of hand-to-hand fighting in the old town, with dead and wounded lying in the streets.

In New York, the U.N. Security Council earlier declared the town a safe zone, ordering the Serb rebels to pull back, to save 60.000 civilians sheltering there.

A U.N. aid convoy whose mission to the besieged town of Srebrenica wass foiled by renewed artillery attacks there turned back from Bosnia and headed toward Belgrade Saturthe U.N. spokeswomar

MOSCOW (R) - Kazakhstan's

President Nursultan Nazarbayev

said Saturday he envisaged seven

states forming a nucleus for closer

cooperation within the 10-

member Commonwealth of Inde-

pen in the middle of May. It is

important that we tell the people what we have arrived at," he told

a news conference in Moscow.

on his way back to Kazakhstan

from Friday's CIS summit in the

Belarussian capital Minsk, where

leaders failed to adopt his propos-

als for closer voluntary coopera-

tion but favoured preserving the

Russian President Boris Yelt-

sin served notice Friday that

and Turkmenistan which have

failed to sign the proposed CIS

statutes would be shut out from

does not sign the statutes will in

effect remain outside the main

channel of cooperation within the

framework of the Common-

wealth, with all the consequences

Asked which countries might

that stem from that," he said.

'Let's call a spade a spade. He who

troubled grouping.

cooperation.

a E C , S c

the Cb Te for ope the tho

Mr. Nazarbayev was speaking

"I very much hope it will hap-

pendent States (CIS).

said rock-throwing teenagers had areas, of Bosnian Muslims and injured two drivers in the ninetruck convoy, one of whom was in hospital for treatment.

It was still unclear when the U.N. agency might mount another convoy for Srebrenica. "I think we will just have to wait and see what happens in the next few days," the spokeswoman told Reuters.

The Security Council has declared Srebrenica a haven for Muslim civilians, demanding that Bosnian Serbs halt their onslaught.

The Serbs were reported within 1.000 metres of the enclave in eastern Bosnia, and some news reports had said earlier that Serbs had taken the town. U.N. diplomats, however, said that the Serbs apparently did not move in.

"The fall of Srebrenica to the Bosnian Serb forces would have been a disaster." Security Council President Jamsheed Marker of Pakistan told reporters early

The resolution approved by all 15 Council members Friday included no enforcement provisions and served as little more than a

The Council would meet immediately to tighten sanctions on the Serbs' sponsors in the Yugoslav Republic of Serbia if Srebrenica falls. a Security Council ambassador said on condition of anonymity.

Friday's resolution reaffirmed the Security Council's condemnation of the Serbs' "ethnic cleans-

form the proposed nucleus.

Nazarbayev named those that have ratified the CIS founding

statutes - Russia, Kazakhstan,

Belarus, Uzbekistan, Armenia,

The CIS was created in Decem-

ber 1991 on the ruins of the

Soviet Union, but has failed to

live up to expectations despite

numerous summits and 287

agreements on issues ranging

from collective security to coop-

eration in banking and finance.

implemented and significant poli-

tical, military and economic dif-

ferences remain. Azerbaijan

dropped out last year, reducing

Nazarbayev called for steps to

entire region, stronger economic

links, a financial and currency

union, coordinated credit and

budget policies and effective col-

Russia's RIA news agency

quoted him as saying examples of

closer cooperation could be the

removal of customs barriers by

May 15 or the creation of a single

"There is a group of states that

currency zone by May 20.

lective security mechanisms.

the membership from 11 to 10.

Many of them have not been

Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

Nazarbayev sees CIS nucleus forming

The UNHCR spokeswoman ing," removal from contested the northeast of the enclave.

interference with relief convoys. Before the vote, Mr. Marker said the U.N. decision-making body hoped that when the Council passed the resolution "the stop the Serbian assault on Sreb-Bosnian Serbs (will) show res-

Meanwhile the Bosnian Serb commander, General Ratko Mladic, and his Bosnian army counterpart, General Sefer Halilovic. arrived around midday at Sarajevo Airport, and later went into face-to-face talks there, said U.N. Protection Force spokesman Commander Barry Frewer.

General Lars-Eric Wahlgren. commander of U.N. Protection Forces in the former Yugoslavia. said: The latest U.N. resolution will be the basis for discussions. That was a reference to a U.N.

Security Council resolution caliing for Srebrenica to be declared a safe zone free from all attack. For his part Gen. Madic said: "I expect to find a practical solu-

Gen. Wahlgren and General Philippe Morillon. U.N. peacekeeping commander for Bosnia-Herzegovina, at first shut-tled between the two sides, said Commander Frewer, before they met face-to-face. With Gen. Wahlgren in the chair, the parties sat down on opposite sides of a U-shaped hollow table, UNPRO-

FOR sources said. Commander Frewer also confirmed an advance party of Canadian troops sent to Srebrenica but blocked by Serb forces, has arrived back at its base in Tuzla, to interview on French television.

have signed the statutes which are

ready for closer cooperation," he

said, adding that other states

might need more time to deter-

Ukraine is one of the CIS states

most suspicious of supranational

structures it fears could infringe

on its sovereignty and be domin-

ated by Moscow. It wants econo-

Ukrainian President Leonid

Kravchuk voiced support for the

grouping Friday, but ruled out his

country's participation in a milit-

ary union. This idea is also

opposed by Belarussian leader

Stanislav Shushkevich, who

favours stronger economic ties.

news conference he favoured a

single currency — a statement

Mr. Nazarbayev took to mean

support for a rouble zone.

Ukraine is pushing ahead with

plans to introduce its own curren-

cy, the Hryvnya, and has already

Mr. Nazarbayev said CIS heads

of government and experts would

meet on April 28 to discuss his

proposals for closer cooperation

ahead of the next meeting of

left the rouble zone.

presidents in May.

Mr. Kravchuk said at a joint

mine their stance.

mic cooperation only.

In a separate development, a spokesman for British Prime Minister John Major said Saturday Britain and France are searching "by all possible means" to

We are seeking by all possible means, including through Lord Owen, the EC (European Community) peace envoy, and the Russians, to maximise pressure on Serbs to halt their attack on Srebrenica," the spokesman said.

He was speaking after a telephone call between Mr. Major and French President François Mitterrand. Britain and France will back a

United Nations Security Council resolution strengthening sanctions against Serbia, the spokes-

If the United Nations Security Council does not adopt the resolution this weekend, the vote could take place at the beginning of the week. Mr. Major's spokesman said.

France was even more vociferous Saturday in its condemnation of the Serbian assault on Srebrenica. Alain Juppe, the French Foreign Minister, said Serbia was "mocking the international community" and called for its total

"We demand today (Saturday) that the United Nations Security Council vote in as soon as possible a resolution that totally isolates Serbia from the rest of the world." Mr. Juppe said during an

Angolan

accord in

principle

rivals

reach



Students and academics from the University of the municipality of Belville near Cape Town in protest at Chris Hani's death (AFP photo)

2 black ANC demonstrators shot dead

VANDERBIJLPARK, South Africa (AFP) — A white gunman shot dead two black ANC demonstrators and seriously wounded a third Saturday as they protested the murder of Communist

leader Chris Hani. Some 3,000 marchers were walking back to minibuses on the north side of the town after a protest in the town centre, and were just passing the last houses when the gunman opened fire.

Driving a blue car at walking pace amid a column of police armoured cars shadowing the march, the gunman stopped towards the tail of the procession and fired three shots across the central reservation.

All three bullets found their target from a distance of around 10 metres. One victim was hit in the head, and another was hit in the chest. Police covered both bodies. The injured man was carried away in an ambulance. A peace monitor from the

Wits/Vaal Regional Peace Committee, which brokers peace arrangements around Johannesburg in terms of the September 1991 National Peace Accord, ran up to the car immediately after the shooting and banged on the passenger window, as the gunman sat impassively inside.

Then police stormed the car, smashed the driver's window, opened the door and dragged out the gunman, a bearded white man in his late 40s.

About 30 seconds before the shooting, a group of around 10 uniformed members of the neofascist Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) who had been following the gunman's car stopped in their tracks.

Most of the marchers, in a jubilant mood after they had handed over a petition at the local police station, were unaware of the boodshed some 800 metres behind them. Despite a stand-off with

shalls had reined in the few marchers that had swapped taunts with the right-wingers. shock than in anger.

who is in police custody.

More than 100,000 people are near Boksburg Monday. Angry blacks waving their fists

around 100 armed AWB members in the town centre, African National Congress (ANC) mar-

After the shooting some 300 marchers stayed behind, more in

The shooting is bound to in-

flame passions still further ahead of Mr. Hani's funeral Monday. Mr. Hani, 50, the hugely popular secretary-general of the South African Communist Party, was shot dead in the driveway of his home at Boksburg east of here last Saturday, by an immigrant white supremacist from Poland

expected at a stadium on the outskirts of Johannesburg's black township Soweto Sunday for his lying-in-state, and for the funeral

massed outside police headquar-

Azeris counterattack in Karabakh eastern Nagorno-Karabakh that demanded their withdrawal in a

MOSCOW (AFP) — Azerbaijani forces launched a big counterattack against Armenian troops Saturday after a week that saw the Yerevan government expand the conflict deeper into Azeri

Azerbaijani forces attacked the Omar Col, which controls access to Kelbajar, seized by the Armenians this week and inside Azeri territory, the press service of the pro-independence authorities in

Nagorno-Karabakh reported. within Azerbaijan and the source of the five-year war with Arme-

Azeri forces were driven out of Kelbajar early in April by Kara-bakh "self-defence units." Saturday's offensive was taking place in an area of snow-packed peaks up to 4,000 metres.

The press service in the Karabakh capital of Stepanakaret also said 30 Azeri soldiers were killed and five Armenians wounded during an Azerbaijani offensive

The escalating conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan guards the border between threatens to bring such powers as Armenia and Turkey has ren-Russia, Turkey, Iran and Iraq dered Ankara's words hollow. into a region that could explode

conflict this week by shelling Clinton recently condemned Fizuli and Agdam, two villages in Armenia's taking of Kelbajar and

also serve as the main bases for Azeri forces in the region. These moves are seen by some observers as an Armenian effort to strengthen their position before the opening of negotiations sponsored by the Conference of Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Edulfaz Elchibey, president of Azerbaijan, denounced what he called Armenia's "rampant expansionism" which uses the Nagorno-Karabakh is an "argument of self-determination Armenian-populated enclave as a way of applying political states."

Armenia has expanded the conflict beyond Azerbaijan's Nagorno-Karabakh to other areas in southern Azerbaijan, a move it could not even contemplate without Russian backing. political observers said.

In Stepanakert, Russian trucks and helicopters not only unload food stuffs and gasoline, but also spanking new anti-tank guns.

Baku's protector is Ankara, sharing the same language and religion. Turkey's politicians have threatened to send military aid to help their Muslim neighbour. But a Russian division that

Azerbaijan has a spark of hope that the Americans may back The Armenians expanded the their position, U.S. President Bill

personal message to Mr. Elchibey cited Friday by the Azeri Turan News Agency. The independent authorities in

Stepanakert as well as Armenia's Defence Minister insist that the "old borders of the Soviet empire." which the West called the 'people's prison' during the cold war." should be redrawn following the lines of the "people's right to self-determination." They insist that "Armenia's borders will be pushed just up to the Araxes River, the border beeen Azerbaijan and Iran.

Meanwhile, the Azerbaijan army's former chief of staff. Chain Mussayev, was arrested Friday in Baku, according to the Armenian News Agency Snark citing Azeri Television. Gen. Mussayev is blamed for losing several key towns, particularly the Lachin corridor which links Armenia with Nagorno-Karabakh.

Meanwhile Azeri Interior Minister Iskender Gamidov, a fiery nationalist and hardliner in Azerbaijan's territorial dispute with Armenia, has resigned, local news agencies said Friday.

Turan News Agency said he quit Thursday night and had already cleared his office. Khabar-Servis Agency said he would be replaced by the military commandant of Baku, police Major-General Abdullah Allakh-

Young Charlotte Bronte was no good at grammar

for 57 per cent of the U.S. month-

ly trade gap. With trade concerns

ton and Mr. Miyazawa did not let

a diplomatic flap that arose from

the April 3-4 U.S.-Russian sum-

mit in Vancouver get in the way

of their talks. Russian notes left

on a dinner table during a session

between Mr. Clinton and Presi-

dent Boris Yeltsin quoted Mr.

Clinton as saying that "when the

Japanese say 'yes' to us, they often mean 'no'." Mr. Clinton

was asked by reporters what he

meant by the statement during a

picture-taking session with Mr.

Miyazawa in the Oval Office at

their start of the meeting. "I

don't know whether to say yes or

no," Mr. Clinton quipped. Mr.

Miyazawa laughed off the inci-

dent by recalling the song. "ves.

we have no bananas." as he had

done in talking to American re-

week. "Remember the song.

Bananas. Yes. That's it,"

agreed Mr. Clinton. "Every lan-

guage has its own peculiarity."
Mr. Miyazawa said.

ves, we have no bananas?

porters in Tokyo earlier in the

topping their agenda, Mr. Clin-

LONDON (R) - Charlotte Bronte, author of English literary classic Jane Eyre, would have fallen short of proposed new standards in British schools. the Guardian newspaper said Saturday. The Guardian said Bronte. who ranks with sisters Emily and Anne among the most important literary figures of the 19th century, was no good at grammar as a child. A faded entry in an old school register recently handed to the Cumbria Record Office in the northern English town of Kendal. gave the following verdict on the eight-vear-old Charlotte Bronte's academic performance: Reads tolerably. Writes indiv ferently...knows nothing of grammar, geography, history or accomplishments." The new proposals, drawn up by the National Curriculum Council, include a greater emphasis on basic grammar, punctuation and diction and a compulsory reading list that includes Jane Eyre for 11-14 year olds.

Prince William shoots rabbits and sets off a storm

LONDON (R) - Prince William, the 10-year-old son of heir to the throne Prince Charles. angered animal rights groups by shooting rabbits on a hunting trip, newspapers reported Saturday, "Wills shoots bunnies," read the front page banner headline in the tabloid daily Sun newspaper. Today newspaper referred to the prince as "shorgun William" and said he was "clearly delighted" with the trip. The papers said Friday's hunting trip at the Scottish royal residence of Balmoral. where Prince William was staying with his father, was the young prince's first foray into blood sports. Royal watchers were quoted as saying the prince. accompanied by a boy of about the same age, left Balmoral with two detectives and several gamekeepers. Shots were heard and the group returned with a haul of about six dead rabbits. "At Balmoral there should be plenty of things to do other than killing animals," an animal concem spokesman said. "I don't think his mother would be pleased,

Farmer burns down home in protest at tax bill

LONDON (R) Farmer Fred

Martin was so angry when he got a £225 (\$360) tax demand on his isolated cottage that he burned it down rather than pay. The ramshackle, three-room chalet in remore moorlands of northeast Fagland had no electricity, water of gas connections. But local goveroment officials insisted it was still subject to a property-based conneil tax that came into force on April 1. Divorced Fred, 45. this week splashed the rooms with paratlin, in the tax demands and threw it inside. "It was one"? way of felling them to go to blazes, he said.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Building collapse kills 200 in N. Korea

SEOUL (R) — A high-rise building under construction in the North Korean capital Pyongyang collapsed last month killing about 200 soldiers, South Korea's Yonhap News Agency reported. The soldiers were mobilised as construction workers, the agency said in a report from Peking late Friday. Quoting an unnamed North Korean source and frequent visitor to Pyongyang, Yonhap said the disaster occurred on March 25.

Shuttle lands at Kennedy Space Centre

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) - The shuttle Discovery landed safely in Florida Saturday after nine days in space studying Earth's diminishing ozone layer. Delayed a day by stormy weather, Discovery touched down with five astronauts aboard at 7:37 a.m. EDT (1137 GMT) at the Kennedy Space Centre. After 148 orbits and a voyage of 3.8 million miles, the winged spaceship returned to the base where it was launched on April 8 on the second of eight missions NASA plans to fly this year. "Discovery's crew returns with a bounty of new knowledge of the sun, our home planet and its fragile atmosphere," said Jeff Carr, mission commentator. Twin sonic booms announced Discovery's approach to the Atlantic coast spaceport minutes before the 103-tonne ship glided to a 215 mph (352 kph) touchdown with Marine Colonel Kenneth Cameron at the controls.

Patten returns to Hong Kong

HONG KONG (AFP) - Hong Kong Governor Chris Patter returned here Saturday after a visit to London saying he hoped upcoming Sino-British talks would be successful. Mr. Pattea. whose visit coincided with the announcement of the resumption of talks, stalled by his controversial democratic reform proposals for the territory, added "I don't want to say anything which would make what is already a difficult job and even more difficult for those who would be at the table." After London and Peking announced this week the resumption of talks in Peking next Thursday, China warned the British side not to say anything that might jeopardise the negotiations over the future of the British colony which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997. The renewed talks followed a period when China hurled abuse and insults at Mr. Patten over his reform package.

Amato may emerge as referendum winner

ROMI: (R) - Socialist Prime Minister Giuliano Amato, his reputation unblemished in the huge corruption scandal rocking Italian politics, could emerge a winner in the aftermath of this weekend's referendum on electoral reform. Opinion polls predict the referendum's proposal to scrap Italy's ponderous form of proportional representation will be a runaway succees. But whether Mr. Amato will then be chosen as the man to lead an interim government to general elections is the subject of intense speculation, analysts say. Once almost written off as the leader of a discredited order, the shy but dogged premier has been enjoying a revival in popularity as Sunday's vote approaches. Never even remotely implicated in the huge bribery scandal which devastated his cabinet, Mr. Amato shone through the murk as a dogged champion of economic reform.

U.N. envoy leaves Haiti with nothing again

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (R) - U.N. special envoy Dante Caputo has left without an expected agreement to end Haiti's 18-month-long political crisis after top military leaders balked at the plan.

But Mr. Caputo said he remained confident that a settlement could still be reached to reinstate toppled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and reform Haiti's military. Mr. Aristide was ousted in a coup in September "I believe it is necessary that all

sides be more flexible, but I

believe that with goodwill we will find a solution," Mr. Caputo told reporters in a brief statement at the airport before departing.

Mr. Caputo spent part of the day in negotiations with army chief General Raoul Cedras,

trying to persuade top military leaders to step down in exchange for amnesty. "We've made proposals for a final, definitive solution to the

political crisis ...unfortunately, we have not received a positive reply," he said. Mr. Caputo said he would re-

turn to New York to consult with the U.N. secretary-general, and with officials in Washington. He spent four days on the impoverished Caribbean island meeting with military leaders and

representatives of Mr. Aristide. Mr. Caputo refused to give any explanation for the last-minute hitch in the negotiations which had been expected to produce a final agreement before his depar-

But diplomats knowledgeable about the talks said that top Haitian military and business leaders had balked at the prop-

ABIDJAN (R) — Angola's government and UNITA rebels reached an agreement in principle to share power in the southern African country and the head of the UNITA delegation said he believed a ceasefire was attain-A joint statement issued during peace talks in Abidjan, capital of ITA members.

Ivory Coast, said the government agreed to improve a 1992 offer of minor government posts for UN-"The government of the Republic of Angola and UNITA

have agreed that ...the principle of a larger participation of UN-ITA in the governmental executive at the national, provincial and local levels is accepted." the statement said.

UNITA delegation head Jorge Valentim said specific posts would be negotiated later but would have to be positions of real influence.

"There are key ministries .prime minister, minister of defence, minister of the interior. minister of foreign affairs, minister of interior administration, all those posts. They should look (at) some of them for UNITA."
The two sides, joined at most

sessions by U.N. mediators and U.S., Russian and Portuguese observers, spent the week seeking general points of agreement

PHNOM MALI, Cambodia (R)

- The Khmer Rouge leadership

has returned to the jungle.

from Fizuli, a military base southeast of Nagorno-Karabakh. The Armenians captured a tank as the Azeris retreated, the report said.

and see its borders change.

Khmer Rouge leader returns to Cambodian jungle

a Vietnamese invasion drove the Khmer Rouge from power in January 1979. Thirteen years of civil war fol-

Khieu Samphan, president of the Maoist guerrilla group, has taken up residence in the Khmer lowed. Rouge's jungle fastness since fleeing Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital, Tuesday, saying he feared for his life.

"He is in the DK (Democratic Kampuchea, or Khmer Rouge) zone." Mak Ben, spokesman for the radical group, told reporters Saturday at Phnom Mali model village, in western Cambodia, just over the border from Thailand.

"We will never return to Phnom Penh," said Mak Ben, who holds one of the Khmer Rouge seats on Cambodia's allfaction reconciliation body, the Supreme National Council

He met with reporters on the anniversary of the Khmer Rouge's victory over the U.S.backed regime of General Lon-

Brother number one, Pol Pot. and his forces took Phnom Penh on April 17, 1975, but immediately changed the date to "year zero", abolished money and cities and made education a capital Pol Pot, formally retired but

ning the Khmer Rouge, lives in Thailand, according to Thai military sources. His "killing fields" rule took through execution, starvation,

believed by many to still be run-

The Vietnamese aggressors. both military and civilian, who have been in Cambodia since

their invasion, continue to run the country in every field," Mr. Mak Ben said. This charge, denied by Hanoi, U.N. peacekeepers and neutral foreign diplomats, is cited by the Khmer Rouge as the reason for

their refusal to honour key parts

of a peace agreement they and

two other guerrilla groups signed with the Vietnamese-installed government in October 1991. The Khmer Rouge have refused United Nations peacekeepers access to their zones, refused to surrender any of their arms, and are refusing to participate in a U.N.-run national election set

Mr. Mak Ben said the elections were fixed to give the Phnom Penh government 70 or 80 per cent of the vote.

for May 23-27.

He refused to comment directly on the violence that has been enveloping Cambodia in recent months He blamed killings throughout

Cambodia on the presence of the Vietnamese including the massacres of scores of ethnic Vietnamese fishermen and women in March. The U.N. peacekeeping opera-

tion has blamed the Khmer the lives of a million Cambodians Rouge for killing the ethnic Vietnamese, and U.N. officials have disease and forced labour, before said they are also responsible for

the deaths of six U.N. peacekeepers since March 28.

While Mr. Mak Ben said the government militiamen.

Khmer Rouge would not return to the capital. He later modified this by saying their absence was temporary until the city could be made secure for them. He said. However, Cambodia had a "elimate of permanent insecurity".

He said the Khmer Rouge but would not attend meetings in Phnom Penh. The Khmer Rouge would meet

who was the group's spokesman 'ly," the statement said, in Phnom Penh. Meanwhile, Cambodia's 8,000 people at the rally, but CINPIC said Saturday that its campaign for next month's elec-

intimidation. FUNCINPEC, loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said two party members have been mur- May 23-27, has officially said the rally in Takeo province Thurs-

The party charged in a state-reported. ment that on April 7, the day the campaign officially began, a Cambodians throughout the Phnom Penh government country are peacefully engaging Cambodian People's Party (CPP) in multi-party activities without representative and an accomplice violence or clashes," spokesman shot and killed the head of the. Frie Berman said, FUNCTNPEC office in south-

western Koh Kong province.

government militiamen.

In Addition, FUNCINPEC said government roadblocks prevented ocoole from attending the rally in Takeo, and that local businessmen were pressured by government authorities not to rent the party loudspeakers. "For a period of time during

would keep their seat on the SNC the rally. (government) representatives broadcast, as loud as possible, a virulent speech by Prime Minister Hun Sen over with the United Nations and the loudspeakers located on a propother factions "any place, anyerty adjacent to the meeting site where there is security for a calm in an attempt to drown out prodiscussion," said Mr. Mak Ben. ceedings at the FUNCINPEC ral-FUNCINPEC was expecting

largest opposition party, FUN- U.N. officials said only about 4,000 turned up. U.N. officials confirmed some tions was being hampered by of the FUNCINPLC assertions, assassinations' harassment and

but the assassinations could not be immediately verified. However, the United Nations, dered this month and that voters campaign was off to a good start. were stopped from attending a with a U.N. spokesman saying Thursday that no cases of harassment or intimidation had been

"It appears that thousands of

About 200 meetings and political rallies have been held in The week before, FUNCIN- various provinces since April 7, PEC said, one of its active mem. Mr. Berman said,